



SEMIANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

October 2022 – March 2023 | Christian Discipleship Fund

SUMMARY

When speaking about those who needed protection and nurturing,
Jesus declared, "Let the little children come to me" (Matthew 19:14, NIV).
World Vision helped more than
2.7 million people in the first half of fiscal year 2023, reaching
63% of our goal for the entire year.
We equipped parents and pastors and engaged participants in programs, all to help children and youth know Jesus and grow in their Christian faith. Highlights since
October 2022 include:

Let the Children Come

Through our discipleship work in 14 countries, 2.6 million people participated directly and indirectly in Let the Children Come (LCC), experiencing the love of God and the nurturing of children's faith. Among our key approaches is Celebrating Families, a biblically based curriculum that teaches parents how to better care for their children.

Biblical Empowered Worldview

World Vision helped more than 50,000 people, directly and indirectly, see their value in God's eyes and change their mindset through Biblical Empowered Worldview (BEWV).

International Bible Fund

We reached more than 60,000 people with the good news of Christ by distributing over 12,000 Bibles.



Ashley reads her Bible as Rumeniger looks on during their youth group meeting, part of World Vision's Let the Children Come program in El Salvador.

GLOBAL UPDATE AND PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

2,726,062

PASTORS, CHRISTIAN LEADERS, TEACHERS, PARENTS, CHILDREN, AND YOUTH have been equipped with the training and resources they need to learn Bible-based life skills and to explore or deepen their faith in Jesus Christ since October 2022.

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491,104

children and youth directly participated in Christian discipleship activities since October 2022.

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50,679

people were impacted directly and indirectly by the Phase 2 scale-up of BEWV since October 2022.

14,568

pastors and church leaders were trained in theology and children's ministry since October 2022.



12,056

Bibles were made available since October 2022, benefiting 60,280 people.



2,874

churches engaged in Christian discipleship of children and youth since October 2022.

AFRICA

SUMMARY

In seven countries across Africa, World Vision works with churches and other partners in the LCC program to help children develop their faith. Highlights from the first half of FY23 include:

Kenya: Congregational Hope Action Teams (CHAT), formed by churches we trained in Channels of Hope-Child Protection, engaged the juvenile justice system to help ensure that courts make decisions in the best interests of children.

Ghana: Through the training of trainers and facilitators, we reached 8,892 children and youth in 18 kids clubs and 15 denominations. The program also intensified positive parenting activities using Celebrating Families so parents and caregivers could foster their children's spiritual development and overall well-being.

Ethiopia: We surpassed annual targets in record time through the training of trainers to reach 291,262 participants (48,527 directly). This included creating peer support groups that used Celebrating Families, discussed cultural and gender stereotypes, and reflected on their own experiences.

Rwanda: The program reached 60,836 parents and 377 faith leaders through the cascading effect of church leaders passing on what they had learned in the first year of work to graduation groups living in extreme poverty and during community outreach.

Mozambique: In partnership with One Hope and other faith-based organizations, the program helped 6,358 youth participate in Bible studies and Sunday school groups. We also trained 598 club monitors, Sunday school teachers, and other faith leaders, using 17 Bible stories and the Dare to Discover and Journey to Hope methodologies.

Democratic Republic of the

Congo: We helped 48,564 parents and caregivers create a healthy environment through Celebrating Families and other activities to enhance the spiritual nourishment of their children. Parents became more aware of the importance of their role.

Zimbabwe: Using BEWV, the program made an impact on 85 youth. "I have a dream to change my life and that of my family for the better," said Nyaradzo, 17.



Mouzinho de Albuquerque used to blame his wife and children for his problems. In Celebrating Families, the Muslim leader in Mozambique heard about family peace. "Based on that knowledge, I started changing my behavior," he said. "Now I'm patient with my children. I am a caring father [and] husband." He credits God for restoring his family, returning a son to school, and giving his wife a mill job. "I see changes also in the community," he said. "People identify me as [someone who is training] parents and caregivers not to use violence against the children."

PARTICIPANT UPDATE AND PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES



1,581,475

people participated directly (420,266) and indirectly (1,161,209) in LCC, including 254,594 children and youth, since October 2022.



10,948

Christian church leaders and other faith and community leaders participated in LCC since October 2022.



1,437

partners, mostly churches and faith-based organizations, participated in LCC since October 2022.

ASIA PACIFIC

SUMMARY

World Vision and our partners promoted spiritual development through the LCC program in three countries in Asia. Highlights from the first half of FY23 include:

Philippines: The program conducted Celebrating Families workshops to help parents and caregivers better understand their role in creating spiritually nurturing environments for their children and families. Through partnerships with two radio stations, we also reached participants through stories based on values and discussions on our methodologies.

Vietnam: Through games and roleplaying, we taught 5,670 children life values and practical skills in internet safety, seeking unity among friends, showing love, and sharing. Children had the opportunity to discuss their ideas and practice social skills, such as problem solving. "We learn so much useful knowledge," said Lo, 13.

Indonesia: Program activities helped faith leaders learn and pass on skills in good parenting, child protection, spiritual nourishment of children, household finance management, and

the creation of child-friendly villages. One pastor compared the work to a "good seedling," saying that "we will take care of it so we can realize [a] child's life to the fullest."

Key lessons and challenges

In the **Philippines**, we integrated our work with the educational program and partnered with teachers and schools. Also, combining youth leadership training with efforts by faith leaders to boost literacy increased the amount of children served. In **Vietnam**, new program models must be considered in the context of the country. World Vision will coordinate with a key local partner to make sure training manuals are acceptable to local communities and partners.

Plans for the next six months

We will conduct Dare to Discipline in different area programs in the **Philippines**, hold regular CHAT meetings in **Indonesia** and monitor the action plan process, and communicate to children and parents in **Vietnam** about values, parenting, and life skills.



Truong Thi Phuong (right, clearing land for a garden with one of her sons) works hard to support her family in Vietnam. She used to show anger at her husband, who has a disability, and their two sons. Although initially dismissive of Celebrating Families, Truong said the lessons made her realize she was abusing her children. She learned parenting techniques to better understand and raise her sons. The boys found jobs and the family built a new home. World Vision "inspired me to think positively and changed my mindset in nurturing my children," Truong said. "[We] will try our best for a better future."

PARTICIPANT UPDATE AND PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES



169,674

people participated directly (25,140) and indirectly (144,534) in LCC, including 19,946 children and youth, since October 2022.



487

Christian church leaders and other faith and community leaders participated in LCC since October 2022.



105

partners, mostly churches and faith-based organizations, participated in LCC since October 2022.

CENTRAL AMERICA

SUMMARY

World Vision's trainings and collaborations with partners in four Central American countries give children the opportunity to learn about God's love and grow spiritually. Highlights from the first half of FY23 include:

Honduras: Working through parents, caregivers, and church leaders, World Vision reached 109,713 children and youth, including sponsored children, with School of Tenderness and other approaches that promote violence prevention. We taught 13,067 parents and caregivers those methodologies, as well as 3,856 teachers from 370 schools. The trainings enabled us to replicate the approaches and raise awareness. As a result, many parents and caregivers acknowledged they had unconsciously hurt their children, repeating behavior they themselves had experienced as children. In another development, 120 mentors from three parishes gained a better understanding of mentoring youth and demonstrating values and Christian principles in their churches.

Nicaragua: World Vision partnered with churches and faith leaders to

strengthen their spiritual leadership and methodologies that benefit children. We replicated this work in communities where churches are located to amplify the impact.

Key learnings

In **El Salvador**, we have established strong partnerships with main denominations on a national level. This will help connect us to thousands of adult and child church members, our main program targets. We taught Raising Children with Tenderness in **Honduras**—where many participants realized they had unknowingly harmed children by repeating old patterns of violent behavior and language—and in Guatemala, where we designed a teaching resource that uses a booklet and kevchain to teach children and families the Lord's Prayer. In Nicaragua, church leaders trained in child-friendly Christian discipleship showed commitment by raising funds to print materials.

Plans for the next six months

In **all countries**, we will hold program workshops for churches of large denominations.



Esmeralda's parish youth group in El Salvador shrank to six members because of emotional, financial, family, and health struggles. That changed after World Vision provided mentorship training. Esmeralda learned how to better understand young people, build relationships, and facilitate open discussions. The group more than tripled in size. "Many young people, out of frustration, resort to violence and cannot express their problems," Esmeralda said. "This project has helped ... young people [to] no longer seek to harm others to feel better."

PARTICIPANT UPDATE AND PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES



863,954

people participated directly (235,802) and indirectly (628,152) in LCC, including 215,681 children and youth, since October 2022.



5,479

Christian church leaders and other faith and community leaders participated in LCC since FY22.



1,564

partners, mostly churches and faith-based organizations, participated in LCC since October 2022.

BIBLICAL EMPOWERED WORLDVIEW

SUMMARY

World Vision continued to scaled up our BEWV model to reach people with messages of transformation and hope. Highlights for the first half of EY23 included:

We started the baseline assessment for Phase 2, reaching 343 participants in five countries so far. Along with staff members from VisionFund, World Vision's microfinance network, we conducted trainings in 16 countries in Latin America and Asia.

World Vision is increasingly aware of the various ways that poverty is evident in countries. During a global learning event in Tanzania and in webinars, we discussed how we address contextual issues using BEWV. This included multifaith programming in West African countries, India, and Tanzania, child and youth programming in Zimbabwe, child protection and environmental stewardship in Kenya, and government engagement in Malawi.

We drafted a standard for the design and implementation of BEWV to

assure quality. The draft has been disseminated and is undergoing testing.

We continued piloting BEWV for children and expanding it to some countries. In Zimbabwe, we partnered with five primary schools that started raising chicks for income. Each partner school received 150 chicks for students to learn responsibility and self-reliance. Lessons will be documented and guide programming.

World Vision is working to create a partnership with African International University to help both organizations fulfill their objectives.

Challenges and key learnings

Staff transitions and restructuring processes delayed BEWV interventions in some countries. Other delays included crises and disasters, as in India, Sudan, and Vanuatu. Holding regional trainings (as was done for Latin America and Asia staff members), rather than individual country trainings, enabled strong discussions in tackling contextual challenges.



Tribal animosity infiltrated the Kakuma refugee camp in Kenya, with warring communities living in close proximity. Antagonists warned their children to stay away from the "other" children. Pastor Ekabe Lukano took a different approach, using Empower!, the BEWV curriculum for children. "The training ... transformed my mind, heart, and actions [and] instilled discipline and a new commitment to serve God," he said. After translating the materials into languages the children could understand, Ekabe presented it with the help of teachers trained in BEWV.

PARTICIPANT UPDATE AND PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES



50,679

people were impacted directly and indirectly by the scale-up of BEWV since October 2022.



8,130

people participated directly in BEWV workshops since October 2022.



1,183

children and youth participated in BEWV activities since October 2022.



348

partner organizations (mostly churches and other groups) participated in BEWV workshops since October 2022.

INTERNATIONAL BIBLE FUND

SUMMARY

In the first half of FY23, World Vision provided 12,056 Bibles with the support of donors like you. This enabled pastors and ministry leaders to teach from Scripture, and children and adults to read God's Word for themselves. A total of 60,280 people benefited in the following countries:

Angola: We distributed 3,244 Bibles to children, youth, pastors, and families, helping 16,220 people. New Testaments and full Bibles in Portuguese were given. Youth received special "Reach for Life" New Testaments in partnership with Biblica, formerly the International Bible Society, and are participating with peers in Reach for Life clubs to learn biblical guidance related to peer pressure, self-esteem, and healthy life choices. We also gave Bibles to pastors in 10 areas who are advocating for the protection of children in their communities.

Lesotho: We provided 550 Bibles to reach 2,750 children, youth, parents, and pastors. Some of the Bibles were distributed to children in Bible clubs, increasing participation and interest in God's Word. We also gave Bibles to students for biblical

learning programs at school. School attendance increased as a result of children having their own Bibles, enabling them to fully participate in the reading programs.

Papua New Guinea: World Vision distributed 1,634 Bibles to benefit 8,170 children, youth, families, pastors, and tribal leaders in conflict-affected areas. The government and nonprofit organizations experienced difficulties in delivering basic services and support due to the ongoing divisions and insecurity. The Bible distributions brought Christian churches from various denominations together around the common vision of reaching their communities.

Democratic Republic of the Congo:

We shared 6,628 Bibles with 642 churches in fragile contexts, reaching 33,140 people. This supported Vacation Bible Schools for children and youth, Sunday school teachers, and parents and caregivers for the faith formation of their children. We also gave Bibles to 50 pastors who were displaced as a result of the armed conflict in Rutshuru.



Children in Lesotho display their new Bibles. "I am so happy to have my own Bible," said Ts'epo (not pictured). "I am going to tell my friends and schoolmates about everything I learn ... I wish all my friends would own Bibles so that we can follow God together." In Angola, another student said that after receiving her Bible at a Reach for Life club, "I came to know of the love that God has for me ... and he wants me to also love myself. Today, I am a new person and I feel useful in the eyes of God."

PARTICIPANT UPDATE AND PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES



60,280

people have benefited from Bibles provided through the International Bible Fund since October 2022.



12,056

Bibles have been made available since October 2022.

MEASURING IMPACT

As part of our continuing efforts to measure impact, we are partnering with Baylor University and Fuller Theological Seminary to build evidence through research about how our programs facilitate the spiritual nurture of children, and how they demonstrate the link between Christian discipleship and community health and well-being.

In the past year, our LCC research with Fuller has started strong, with more than 5,000 parents and children in 14 countries surveyed to assess the effectiveness and impact of our Celebrating Families curriculum. As data collection on the first cohort soon finishes, the research team is preparing to start the second cohort to ensure we have a robust evidence pipeline for years to come.

World Vision is embarking on a multiyear study of our mentorship programs in El Salvador and Honduras. The team hosted Dr. Carson Mencken, chair of the sociology department at Baylor, and World Vision's evidence and learning staff for site visits.

THANK YOU

Along with a community of believers, you are helping children and families reach their full potential and deepen their relationship with the Lord. When young people are nurtured by parents, equipped by faith leaders, and empowered by knowing God's Word, their lives are transformed. Thank you for partnering with us to deliver hope to children across the world.



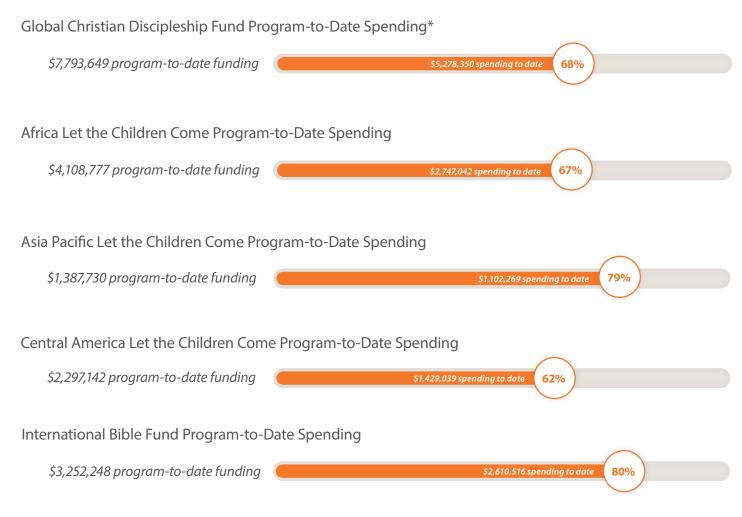
In the Kakuma refugee camp in Kenya, children like this girl learned to be empowered by God's Word. "Vision is very important," another child said. "Without it, you cannot see yourself beyond what you are today."





FINANCIALS

The following financial summaries cover October 2021 through March 2023, except for the International Bible Fund, which covers October 2016 through March 2023.



*Composed of Let the Children Come program spending

Note: These financials represent funding for programs which began during the Every Last One Campaign and are still in process, as well as programs begun as part of our new campaign during the first half of fiscal year 2023 (October 2022 through March 2023).



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