

WOMEN and GIRLS

# **EMPOWERING WOMEN AND GIRLS**

#### October 2022 – September 2023

# **SUMMARY**

Through the power of God and the support of our donors and partners, women and girls are being empowered to reach their full potential!

Together, we're aiming to equip 150 million women and girls to lead safer, healthier, more productive lives by 2030. We're inspired by these beliefs:

- Women and girls living in extreme poverty face more obstacles simply because they were born female.
- When everyone gains equal access and opportunity, children are better cared for, families are

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stronger, and communities are more prosperous.

We can't end extreme poverty if half the population is held back.

"Creating environments for right relationships between girls and boys and women and men is the path to long-term, sustainable change that will end extreme poverty," says Edgar Sandoval Sr. (right), president and CEO of World Vision.

This report shares the progress we've made together in the first year of our audacious new vision.

WOMEN AND GIRLS\* were reached through World Vision's projects across all



Edgar first met Sofia in a Colombian refugee settlement in 2019, after she joined a program to help her catch up in school. In 2023, they met again just as Sofia finished fifth grade. Her teacher says she's a bright student.

# GLOBAL PROGRESS (October 2022 – September 2023)

		sectors and countries.
	1,600,478	women and girls gained access to <b>clean water</b> close to home, significantly reducing the time they spend walking and hauling water.
	762,231	women and girls gained access to <b>healthcare.</b>
Ş	912,031	women and girls have benefited from access to <b>financial services</b> , savings groups, agricultural training, technology, and markets.
	3,975,615	women and girls have benefited from training and resources to learn Bible-based life skills and to <b>explore or deepen their faith.</b>
	3,752,934	women and girls impacted by disasters and humanitarian crises received <b>life-saving</b> , <b>emergency support services</b> such as food assistance, protection, and livelihood training.
Ś	179,049	women and girls benefited from programs that educated community members, <b>increased protection</b> , and challenged harmful cultural norms such as child marriage.
	46,784	women and girls benefited from <b>education</b> programs, including literacy, life skills, livelihood training, early childhood development, and investments in safe schools.

This total includes participants reached through World Vision's privately funded programs and our publicly funded emergency response programs. Some women and girls have participated in more than one program.

# **HIGHLIGHTS FROM THIS REPORTING PERIOD**

#### **Clean Water**

World Vision has reached over 25 million people with access to clean water since 2016. Now, we're working to reach 30 million more people in 41 countries by 2030—unlocking opportunities for education, healthcare, and economic growth for some of the world's most vulnerable people.

Three years ago, Alinafe (right) was admitted to Kapenga Health Center in Malawi to deliver her first-born child. At the time, patients had to ask to use local residents' bathrooms. Recently, she was admitted to have her second child, and this time, there was a big difference: World Vision has built toilets and bathrooms, as well as a new mechanized tap water system for the hospital. "The last time I was here ... it was hard for us and our guardians to maintain safe hygiene practices," recalls Alinafe. "The risk of cholera and other hygiene-related diseases was very high, so I am grateful that we now have safe, dignified toilets and bathrooms."

At healthcare facilities like Kapenga, access to clean water and sanitation ensures a safe place for mothers to receive care and for babies to be born.





## Health

Our global health programs focused on training more community health workers to educate and support pregnant women and their children; on bringing clean water, sanitation, and hygiene to rural health centers; and on upgrading clinics.

Two years ago, less than half of the healthcare centers in Zambia had clean water on premises, and only one in six had basic handwashing facilities. In response, we announced a bold vision to upgrade 125 healthcare facilities in Zambia serving an estimated 1.1 million people by 2025.

Today, we're thrilled to announce that we've finished the funding ahead of schedule. The work to upgrade all of the clinics is on track for completion in 2025, with 50 of the 125 clinics already completed.

We will bring clean water on premises, showers, flush toilets (including access for people with disabilities) to each facility, like Mwando Health Post (top right) and Nsombo Rural Health Center (bottom right). We'll also provide training on disease prevention to health personnel and to community health workers serving mothers and their babies, like Ireen Muma (middle right).







#### **Economic Empowerment**

By 2030, World Vision wants to empower 10 million people with tools to lift themselves out of extreme poverty. Through THRIVE (Transforming Household Resilience in Vulnerable Environments), entrepreneurs access small loans, financial education, business training, and savings groups.

Five years ago, Jessica (right) participated in THRIVE in Honduras. Today, she's a lead farmer, partnering with four other farmers to grow and sell their goods together. By joining forces, they can command more competitive prices. They also began a farming school and have shared their knowledge with 300 other farmers. "World Vision is my university," she says.

# **Child Protection**

Our multisector Kenya Big Dream project equips and supports communities to eliminate the harmful cultural practices of female genital mutilation and child marriage.

Dorothy Kamono (right) was part of a group of 60 community members in Baringo County who met to discuss these issues and ways to foster positive change. "[The conversations] helped us to identify the root causes of problems in our community and come up with ways to address them," she says. "I opened a business, which gives me income to support my family and provide basic needs for my children. We are now better parents to our children and are taking the [initiative] to protect them."



#### **Emergency Response**

This year, our teams have responded to disasters, refugee crises, extreme hunger situations, and ongoing conflicts around the world.

Having fled their home due to war, Qamar<sup>\*</sup> (right) and her family were sharing a room in a displacement camp when the 2023 earthquake struck Syria. The family rushed outside as the ceiling started to fall in, though with nowhere else to go, they later returned. But 10-year-old Qamar couldn't sleep. "I'd scream in the middle of night," she recalls. "I thought I might die like other children who passed away under the rubble." Qamar went to World Vision's protection center, which offers psychological services to 600 children. Today, through the support she received, Qamar's started making friends, leaving home, and sharing her emotions.



\*Name changed for security



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World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. Motivated by our faith in Jesus Christ, we serve alongside the poor and oppressed as a demonstration of God's unconditional love for all people. World Vision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender. PHL1670 1120 © 2024 World Vision. Inc.

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