

SUMMARY

Kenya Big Dream, the bold aspiration to protect vulnerable children through eradicating female genital mutilation (FGM) and child marriage, reached a milestone in the first half of fiscal year 2024. Your generous support helped World Vision reach 71,666 children and adults in the past six months and 1,345,106 overall, exceeding the life-of-program target.

This multisectoral program works to change attitudes and harmful cultural practices in West Pokot and Baringo counties (Phase 1), Samburu County (Phase 2), and Migori County (Phase 3). Kenya Big Dream educates children, improves livelihoods so that families won't consider marrying off their daughters for a bride price, and advocates for child protection.

Highlights from the first half of FY24 include:

- 112,056 students enrolled in school from early childhood

education through secondary school, including 56,651 boys and 55,405 girls. Nearly two-thirds of students (81,981) were at the primary level, with about 13% (16,681) at the secondary level.

- The program provided school fee subsidies to 871 students. The subsidies help retention rates and reduce a financial barrier to education.
- In Tirioko Ward in Baringo County, construction of the first girls' secondary school in the Akoret community is underway. The school, 65% complete and expected to be finished by June 30, 2024, will include three classrooms, two labs, a kitchen, dining hall, a 106-bed dormitory, and water tanks holding 26,417 gallons. When completed, the school will empower up to

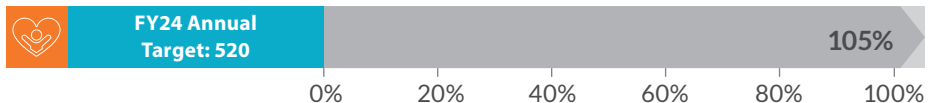
(continued on next page)



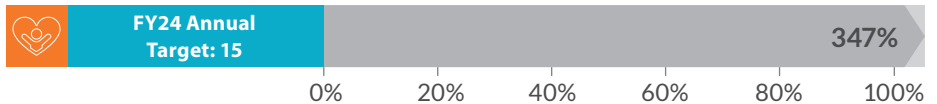
Through Kenya Big Dream, school attendance has risen steadily, as reflected in Samburu County. At baseline in January 2024, the 17 targeted secondary schools in the county enrolled 2,768 students. Current enrollment is 3,490 students, an increase of 722 students or 26%. Girls account for nearly 52% of students.

PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

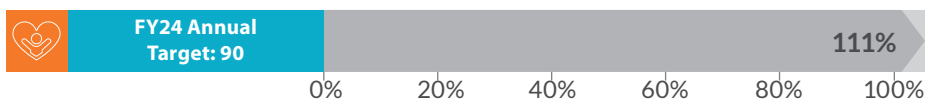
546 children graduated from five-day Alternative Rites of Passage ceremonies.



52 savings groups were established in Samburu County.



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



290 girls, with the national government providing meals and local authorities ensuring security and oversight.

- Six classrooms and a library were added to three primary schools in Samburu County, benefiting 874 students. Additionally, a solarization project was implemented in Baringo and West Pokot counties, providing lighting to enhance learning environments for 189 girls. The same project enabled Kongor Primary School in Baringo to open its first dormitory for 49 girls, boosting enrollment to 209 students—a ten-fold increase from the previous fiscal year.
- To help dismantle barriers to education for 3,440 vulnerable children in World Vision’s Early Childhood Development Education project, the program provided 1,440 chairs, 400 tables, 2,400 school bags, and 240 pairs of shoes. The items met immediate, practical needs while supporting enrollment and retention rates.

Improving savings and livelihoods

- The program created 52 savings groups with cumulative savings of more than \$28,000 through this reporting period. Over the life of the program, members of 332 savings groups have cumulatively saved more than \$275,000 to build a financial foundation and start or improve livelihoods, including farming, beading, beekeeping, and selling items.
- Kenya Big Dream enlisted reformed warriors, previously engaged in cattle theft and supporting child marriage, to champion efforts opposing FGM and harm to children. The Siryewo Savings Group in Baringo County, made up mostly of former warriors, highlighted this shift. Inspired by their community’s transformation, they have embarked on livelihood activities such as trading livestock and grain and selling veterinary supplies and honey. These activities not only provide sustainable income, but also keep them engaged as a group in combating child marriage, serving as peace ambassadors, and enhancing community welfare.
- The program aims to boost farm productivity and household food security by training farmers in Climate Smart Agriculture techniques, an approach that helps alleviate economic pressures and decreases reliance on harmful practices. The program collaborated with the county Department of Agriculture and Livestock to reach 157 farmers, including 48 lead farmers, across all 12 wards in Migori County. Farmers then shared their new skills with their communities, leveraging the impact of training

Involving the community

- We reached 3,235 participants through Community Change (C-Change), which facilitates transformation within communities and fosters dialogues, awareness, and collective action against FGM and other harmful practices. We trained 100 participants as trainers, surpassing the



Morans, young single men and warriors of the Samburu tribe, once staunchly supported FGM and child marriage. Kenya Big Dream is teaching them to break the cycle of violence against girls and women and develop a sense of purpose through training in job skills. Seven morans are learning mechanical engineering (above) and other livelihood skills at Maralal Technical and Vocational Training Center. “We have changed and learned so much,” said Godfrey, one of the participants. “This training has opened our minds.”

Participants now champion the rights of women and pledge not to marry girls who have undergone FGM. The program also provided them startup kits and seed capital to start their own businesses. “The conversations we have had with them are bearing fruit,” said Julius Lentawa, project manager in Phase 2. “Slowly but surely, we are changing the narrative.”

target of 90. Read the story of Lodeng'o in the sidebar (right) to learn more about the impact C-Change is having on fathers and husbands.

- The program collaborated with local churches to train 108 Sunday school teachers working with 3,083 vulnerable children and youth ages 9 to 17. The teachers provided mentorship and spiritual guidance, leading to improved life skills, including better decision-making, resilience, and self-advocacy. In West Pokot County, 44 children are being prepared to take on significant roles in the Kenyan Children's Assemblies, providing them a platform to influence decisions impacting their communities.
- The Household Cluster Implementation Approach (HCIA) in Phase 3 is a new strategy aimed at boosting community involvement and ensuring that help is reaching the right households. This innovative approach is improving how we deliver our programs, maximizing impact, and bettering livelihoods and resilience in the communities we serve.
- The program hosted a significant gathering in Samburu County, where the declaration to end FGM and child marriage was initially made in 2022 by then-President Kenyatta. Sixty-seven respected elders from West Pokot, Baringo, Migori, and Bungoma counties collaborated to promote cross-learning and program activities. Along with Ann Wang'ombe, Kenya's principal secretary for gender and affirmative action, and community members from the Anti-FGM Board, participants reaffirmed their commitments to national and county governments to work to end harmful cultural practices and foster safer communities for children.
- We trained 90 elders from Tiaty in Baringo County, including one with a disability, on child rights and the roles of various stakeholders in preventing violence against children. This training involved collaboration with national and county governments; NGOs like So They Can, Save the Children, and Compassion International; and the AIC Chemolingot church. Following the training, the elders are forming a community-based organization and have started actively participating in county and national events. Their efforts aim to positively influence cultural practices and promote child protection. To date, 370 elders have been trained as advocates for safeguarding children.

Boosting advocacy

Citizen Voice and Action (CVA) is an advocacy model that empowers community members to work for transparency and accountability in child protection. In Migori County, the program trained and registered 73 participants as CVA champions who learned about laws related to FGM and child marriage. In Samburu County, we partnered with the Samburu Community Social Accountability Network, working in 24 villages to engage with local officials and educate communities on their legal rights. The network



Two years ago, Lodeng'o owned more than 50 goats, 10 cows, and two camels. "I ended up selling them to buy more alcohol whenever I wanted a drink" and acted violently against his family, he said. After joining a C-Change project offered by Kenya Big Dream in Baringo County, "I realized how much I had been neglecting my duties as both a father and husband to my family," he said. "It was then that I made the decision to change my ways."

Lodeng'o started attending his local church and devoted himself to repairing the damage he had caused his family. "Learning from the word of God gave me so much hope and encouragement to become a better person," he said. Lodeng'o joined a savings group and used his money to buy school uniforms and books for his nine children. He also built a shop at the local trading center and is able to provide food for his family. "I want to ensure I give my children the very best life possible," he said.

has also submitted eight petitions to the national government advocating for child-related improvements, such as enhancing educational resources and establishing essential services. The network also has actively contributed to the budgeting process for Samburu County for FY24-FY25. Three county-led Child Protection Committees meet quarterly to monitor and review child protection policies, education issues, and emerging trends.

- As a result of these advocacy efforts, 28 women committed to transition from practicing and supporting FGM and child marriage, and moving to another sustainable livelihood. In addition, the program successfully advocated for important community resources in Samburu County. It secured early childhood development classrooms in Soit-Naibor and Soit Ngiro, and boreholes to provide clean drinking water in Ntepes and Soit Naibor. Additionally, a primary school in Soit Naibor was officially registered with the Ministry of Education, enhancing educational opportunities for local children.
- In Migori County, the program aims to shape policy by advocating for stronger laws and policies that safeguard women's rights and provide justice for abuse survivors. It focuses on implementing preventive measures and collaborating with local women's organizations, NGOs, and global agencies to improve support services for women and girls.

CHALLENGES

Cattle theft and tribal clashes surged in Samburu, Baringo, and West Pokot counties, along with a part of Migori County. The challenges resulted in closed schools, displaced communities, more widows and orphans, and restricted access to some areas. To help our work proceed, we trained community members to help implement and monitor projects and engaged elders to foster peaceful communities.

Drought has heightened household vulnerability and made it harder for families to meet basic needs, such as paying school fees. Samburu, West Pokot, and Baringo counties have faced severe levels of food insecurity.

Implementing the HCIA model required considerable time investments in mapping clusters, training sector promoters, and registering households, which led to delays in the county rollout process.

During this reporting period, the program saw a significant increase in demand for school fees and learning materials due to higher primary school enrollments and more students moving from primary to secondary education. This surge has led to a greater need for financial assistance for parents to pay school fees, with the program budget covering 169 fewer fee subsidies than in FY23, as the budget was much smaller than in previous years, as this is the last year of Phase 1. Additionally, due to the lack of sustainable income sources, some parents take their children



For girls in Samburu County, access to education is just one challenge. Another is attending school while not being ridiculed for lack of menstrual hygiene products. Missing school or risking their health with poorly improvised hygiene materials? Neither was a good option. Kenya Big Dream resolved the dilemma by providing the girls with dignity kits (above) containing sanitary pads, soap, toothbrushes, and other toiletries.

Beyond hygiene, the kits represent empowerment and hope to girls. "Boys would laugh at me," said Faith, one of the students. "But now, I can hold my head high and pursue my dreams without fear." Pereti, another recipient of dignity kits, no longer is anxious about attending school. "I used to dread going to class," she said. "But now, I can walk through those doors with confidence, knowing that I have the tools to succeed."

out of school to go work with them in gold mines. This choice has left the children increasingly reliant on support from local authorities and religious organizations to advocate for their rights.

LOOKING AHEAD

In the second half of FY24, our plans are to:

- Phase 1 (Baringo and West Pokot counties): Implement plans to transition from the first phase
- Phase 2 (Samburu County): Conduct midterm evaluations
- Phase 3 (Migori County): Use baseline surveys to help inform targeted interventions and ensure that interventions are aligned with local needs; enhance the learning experience by improving school conditions



In C-Change sessions, like this one in Baringo County, communities engage in facilitated dialogues to discuss underlying beliefs, sociocultural norms, and traditional practices. C-Change challenges community members' ideas and works to improve child well-being.

LIFE-OF-PROGRAM UPDATE (FY20-FY24)



THANK YOU

Kenya Big Dream aims to protect children from all forms of violence while giving them and their families hope for a better future. The program transforms lives in remarkable ways, as seen in the story of Lodeng'o on page 3.

His wife, Cheposopon, attests to his turnaround: "We are so happy now that he has turned to God and is taking good care of the family. We live contentedly despite not having much wealth, because we have found peace in our home."

Thank you for your generous support to World Vision. Because of you, Kenya Big Dream can continue to help participants like Lodeng'o protect vulnerable children and their families. "I have become a much better man now and my family enjoys peace," Lodeng'o said. "It feels amazing to have come this far from where I was previously in life."



34834 Weyerhaeuser Way S.
P.O. Box 9716
Federal Way, WA 98063-9716

For more information visit:
worldvisionphilanthropy.org/child-protection



FINANCIALS

Program spending October 2023 through March 2024

Description	FY24 Expenses	FY24 Funding	Program-to-Date Expenses	Program-to-Date Funding
Outcome 1: Children and adolescents are empowered to become constructive citizens	\$ 885,811	\$ 1,484,795	\$ 4,175,904	\$ 4,825,031
Children and adolescents are engaged in ending abusive practices	440,555	621,378	1,289,686	1,501,092
Children and adolescents complete secondary or vocational school	445,256	863,417	2,886,218	3,323,939
Outcome 2: Children have a caring, safe, and supportive environment	773,501	1,663,184	4,497,062	5,436,147
Caregivers and those who perform FGM have increased economic security	327,671	942,649	2,203,111	2,875,469
Caregivers and community members join campaign to stop violence against children (VAC) and engage in anti-VAC activities	311,398	454,754	1,746,867	1,865,372
Caregiver parenting skills are enhanced	134,432	265,781	547,084	695,306
Outcome 3: Systems and structures for child protection are functional	567,899	1,065,250	2,174,655	2,614,583
Community-based systems and structures for child protection are accessible	161,662	262,876	432,400	534,916
Implementation of current laws and policies on FGM/C and child marriage are improved	406,237	802,374	17,422,555	2,079,667
Akoret Secondary School Construction Project	(23,246)	710,353	337,367	1,114,553
SUBTOTAL	2,203,965	4,923,582	11,184,988	13,990,314
Management and fundraising	734,655	1,641,194	3,728,329	4,663,438
TOTAL	\$ 2,938,620	\$ 6,564,776	\$ 14,913,317	\$ 18,653,752