

SUMMARY

The dreams of vulnerable children in Kenya kept moving toward reality in fiscal year 2024, thanks to your ongoing and faithful partnership. In Kenya Big Dream, World Vision expanded work to eradicate female genital mutilation (FGM) and child marriage and increased opportunities for girls and boys to reach their potential.

We reached 135,497 children and adults in FY24 and **1.4 million overall**, exceeding the life-of-program target.

Through our multisectoral work, the program seeks to change attitudes and harmful cultural practices in West Pokot and Baringo counties (Phase 1), Samburu County (Phase 2), and Migori County (Phase 3). School enrollment rose in FY24 compared with the baseline year in each county:

- Samburu: Increased by 5,102 students from FY22 (up 28%) for a total of 23,154 (47% girls)

- Migori: Increased by 1,681 students from FY23 (up 4%) for a total of 44,690 (51% girls)
- Baringo and West Pokot: Increased by 4,073 students from FY20 (up 37%) for a total of 15,073 (49% girls)

Other highlights from FY24 include:

Improving education

- In Baringo County, we commissioned the first phase of Akoret Girls High School in Tiriko Ward. Akoret previously lacked a secondary school, which increased the vulnerability of girls to child marriage and FGM. The school features classrooms, labs, dorms, and other essential infrastructure. Current enrollment is 98 girls, with 35 receiving school fee subsidies to promote retention. The school can accommodate 1,100 girls.

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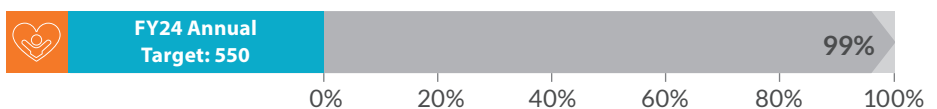


School attendance in FY24 increased by 10,856 students from the baseline years for Kenya Big Dream in West Pokot, Baringo, Samburu, and Migori counties. Of the 82,917 students enrolled over the life of the program, 49.9% have been girls.

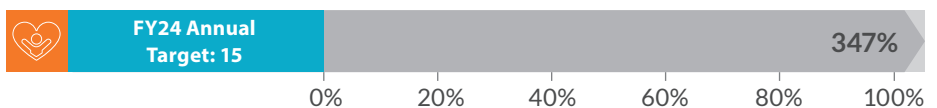
These girls (above) are students in an accelerated learning program in Lenkima in Baringo County.

PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

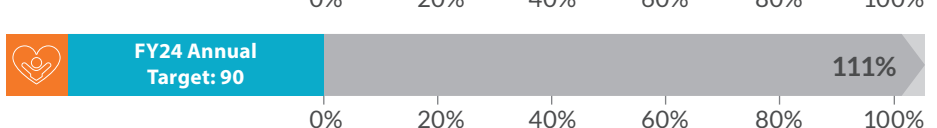
546 children graduated from four-day Alternative Rites of Passage ceremonies.



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.



- Two new classrooms and a library at Lkisin Primary School in Samburu County led to enrollment increasing from 104 to 286 students. With the upgrade, the Ministry of Education approved the facility as a junior secondary school, making it the only one nearby and improving education access for students.
- We provided school fee subsidies to 1,133 students (69% girls), more than doubling our FY24 target.

Saving money and empowering women

- The program created 52 savings groups, more than tripling our FY24 target. Over the life of the program, 6,973 members (79% women) have saved \$322,201 through 332 savings groups, helping members develop livelihoods in farming, beadwork, shopkeeping, and beekeeping.
- In Baringo and West Pokot counties, we worked with 28 women, all former practitioners of FGM, to break the cycle of harmful practices. By providing them with opportunities for sustainable livelihoods, many women have become self-sufficient, improving household income and food security.

Creating alternative transitions to womanhood

- We helped 546 children (62% girls) complete the intensive four-day training in Alternative Rites of Passage (ARP), equipping them with the knowledge and skills necessary to champion child rights. ARP enables girls to transition into womanhood without undergoing the trauma of FGM and empowers boys to be their allies in combatting FGM, child marriage, and other forms of violence against children.
- Kenya Big Dream has provided ARP training to 2,400 community members (38% women), including parents, faith leaders, and other local leaders. The number of leaders trained is more than six times the goal. These leaders will help promote a culturally acceptable substitute for FGM.
- We organized an ARP celebration for graduating girls and boys to celebrate a symbolic transition into a future free from harmful cultural practices. Leaders from NGOs, Baringo and West Pokot government, law enforcement, and the community came together to champion girls' education and an end to FGM and child marriage. The event included community dialogues to raise awareness and foster collective action, with leaders and elders urged to commit to creating safer, more equitable environments for all children.

Speaking out against FGM, child marriage, and violence

- A partnership with the West Pokot Child Protection Network played a crucial advocacy role during the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, an annual worldwide campaign. We also supported the



In Kenya's pastoral communities, many children work instead of attending school, leaving them vulnerable to violence, FGM, and child marriage. Nicholas (above, lower right), like many boys, spent his days herding livestock.

"I always wanted to go back to school but I didn't know how," said 15-year-old Nicholas, an orphan in Lenkima, a community with high numbers of working children. He became one of 70 children registered in an accelerated learning program for older children, offered in Baringo and Samburu counties by Kenya Big Dream in partnership with the government.

Educators adapted their teaching methods because when children arrived, "many didn't even know how to hold a pen," a Lenkima teacher said.

Nicholas now spends his days with students, not livestock. "I see hope," he said. "I want to finish my education and be a role model in my community."

Pokot Council of Elders and representatives from the Samburu, Kuria, and Saboot communities as they presented a memorandum to national government leaders and the state Anti-Female Genital Mutilation Board. The memo highlighted the need for systemic change and sustained government support to protect and uphold the rights of vulnerable children through eradicating FGM and child marriage.

- We trained 73 youth in our Citizen Voice and Action (CVA) model to hold authorities accountable to provide essential services and to advocate against FGM and child marriage. Four social accountability networks composed of CVA-trained community members were registered with the national government, enabling them to access youth development funding.
- The social accountability networks engaged county and national governments, as well as the East African Legislative Assembly, and submitted memoranda advocating for stronger anti-FGM policies, including those addressing cross-border issues with Tanzania.
- The networks organized training sessions on the effects of FGM and child marriage, targeting out-of-school youth and children. The four social accountability networks trained 4,120 youth in Migori County.

Working with partners to help children

- Through advocacy work, the networks also prompted the Migori County government to reintroduce a preschool feeding program in its FY24-FY25 budget. The program aims to serve 20,000 children.
- We partnered with the Samburu Community Social Accountability Network to engage 24 villages in monitoring government efforts against FGM and child marriage. Through 16 community meetings, the network educated residents about their rights and responsibilities and met with officials to discuss child protection plans. The network submitted four petitions advocating for teachers who specialize in teaching and nurturing young children in Samburu County's Early Childhood Development Education programs and birth registration offices. As a result, the county committed to building six new classrooms with national funding. This collaboration shows the power of community engagement in advancing children's rights.
- In Migori County, we worked with local organizations and NGOs to strengthen laws protecting women's rights, improve justice for survivors of gender-based violence, and enhance support services for women and girls. We supported the county's gender strategic plan for FY22-FY25 and its policy on sexual and gender-based violence, contributing to ongoing child protection policies. These efforts are creating a stronger legal framework for the long-term protection of women and children.



The 50 new farmers trained by World Vision were surprised. Having never grown crops before, the group in Loudokume Village in Samburu County harvested beans, sweet potatoes, and other vegetables. “We didn’t think it would work,” admitted one of the farmers, Richard.

Participants now “get fresh produce from our farm instead of traveling long distances,” said Maria (above, foreground). After feeding their families, farmers sell surplus crops to support their children’s education.

In West Pokot County, World Vision helped Lina dig a pond so she could irrigate her crops year-round. Besides now being able to send her children to school, she is building a new house for her family and actively campaigns against FGM and child marriage in her community. “My life has improved significantly,” Lina said. “I ensure all my children, especially girls, receive an education.”

Engaging parents and the community

- We helped develop the National Positive Parenting Manual to foster nurturing family environments. The manual will be widely distributed to promote positive parenting across Kenya. We also contributed to national policies on education and the prevention of child marriage, FGM, and other harmful practices. These initiatives help drive systemic change for a safer, more equitable society.
- Community Change dialogues continued with 3,235 community members (72% female) in 46 groups. Community Change facilitates transformation within communities and fosters awareness and collective action against FGM and other harmful practices.

Promoting the rights of children

- We met our target by establishing child rights clubs in 60 schools, empowering 2,380 children (51% girls) to advocate for their rights. The program trained 120 teachers as club advisors and 160 youth as peer educators to foster leadership and awareness among students. In addition, 5,400 booklets and posters were distributed among all schools to further amplify messages about child rights. By enhancing their decision-making and leadership skills, children are better equipped to serve as change agents in their communities, leading not only their clubs but actively participating as advocates in International Day of the African Child, International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation, and other national and international days and conferences.
- We organized competitions for all 60 child rights clubs to use various art forms in advocating for child protection and opposing FGM, child marriage, and violence. We partnered with the Ministry of Education to enable the clubs to share their message with community and government officials through poetry, music, dance, fashion, speeches, and news reports. The competitions encouraged children to use their voices and become ongoing advocates.

CHALLENGES

A surge in attacks by bandits and tribal clashes have disrupted daily life in certain areas of all four counties in Kenya Big Dream. In some cases, the violence has prompted schools to close and forced entire communities to flee, shattering families and leaving widows and orphans.

In response, we have incorporated conflict-management interventions. This includes involving the local leadership and traditional authority of elders and morans (warriors of the Samburu tribe) in peace-building strategies to foster dialogue and collaboration among community members. This will help build trust, mitigate conflict, and create a more secure environment for children to return to schools and families to rebuild lives.



With her money all spent on medical treatments for her son, Teresia was in despair three years ago in Migori County. “I had lost hope in life,” she recalled. After enrolling in Biblical Empowered Worldview training through Kenya Big Dream, Teresia’s mindset shifted from dependency to inspiration.

She started a kitchen garden to feed her family and sell surplus vegetables, then took out a savings group loan and ventured into goat farming. With her growing income, Teresia paid for two of her daughters to enroll in apprenticeship programs in dressmaking and hairdressing.

Her older daughters had undergone FGM and married young, but “I have abandoned FGM and my younger daughters and granddaughter will not undergo it,” Teresia said. “I am committed to ensuring that no future generations of mine will suffer from it.”

LIFE-OF-PROGRAM UPDATE (FY20-FY24)



Goal

1,322,464 people have engaged with education, protection, and/or community action activities to create a safer environment for children.

Actual

1,408,937 people (106% of the goal) have engaged with education, protection, and/or community action activities to create a safer environment for children.



THANK YOU

Unable to continue school because of her family's finances, Zilpa felt her world had "come to a standstill. The hopelessness was overwhelming." That changed when Kenya Big Dream sponsored the Migori County youth in a hairdressing course at Chinato Training College. "I'm determined to complete my studies and start my own business," Zilpa said. "This program has given me not just an education, but a second chance at life."

Kenya Big Dream is filled with stories like Zilpa's, and all have something in common: They were made possible with your generous giving. Your support helps transform lives, reviving hope for vulnerable youth. "I want to inspire other young girls in my community to keep pushing forward," Zilpa said. **"Dreams can come true, and giving up is never an option."**

Although escaping FGM was crucial, Joy's dreams remained unrealized. Lack of finances prevented her from continuing her education. Through Kenya Big Dream, she was sponsored for a two-year dressmaking course at Chinato Training College in Migori County.

"Life was tough after dropping out of school. I felt hopeless, but this sponsorship has given me new hope," said Joy, 21. Amazed by how quickly she learned to apply design principles, cut fabric, and use a sewing machine, Joy now plans to start her own dressmaking business.

"The skills I'm acquiring will help me earn a decent income and improve my family's situation," she said.

LOOKING AHEAD

World Vision has just launched the Big Dream to End Child Marriage program, which will engage communities in Bangladesh for four years and in Kenya for six years—empowering more girls to complete their education, gain skills to rise out of poverty, and break free from the cycle of child marriage.

We seek to create a sustainable movement that addresses each factor contributing to child marriage and harmful practices. Our five-pillar approach focuses on behavior change, education access, economic empowerment, reducing water- and sanitation-related barriers to girls' education, and strengthening child protection systems. We will also work with faith, community, and government leaders to recognize and confront injustices faced by women and girls in their communities.

By 2030, we aim to directly reach 660,000 people, including nearly 170,000 girls. In addition, 1.2 million people will indirectly benefit from improved social, health, and economic conditions.



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



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.

FINANCIALS

Program spending October 2023 through September 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	\$ 1,604,013	\$ 1,880,737	\$ 4,894,106	\$ 5,158,936
Children and adolescents are engaged in ending abusive practices	628,059	638,299	1,477,190	1,518,013
Children and adolescents complete secondary or vocational school	975,954	1,242,438	3,416,916	3,640,923
Outcome 2: Children have a caring, safe, and supportive environment	1,569,829	1,513,162	5,293,390	5,379,825
Caregivers and those who perform FGM/C have increased economic security	875,628	852,964	2,751,068	2,879,485
Caregivers and community members join campaign to stop violence against children (VAC) and engage in anti-VAC activities	444,600	410,733	1,880,069	1,821,351
Caregiver parenting skills are enhanced	249,601	249,465	662,253	678,989
Outcome 3: Systems and structures for child protection are functional	1,054,745	1,077,781	2,661,501	2,627,115
Community-based systems and structures for child protection are accessible	266,872	260,005	537,610	532,045
Implementation of current laws and policies on FGM/C and child marriage is improved	787,873	817,776	2,123,891	2,095,070
Akoret Secondary School Construction Project	178,716	757,049	539,329	1,114,553
SUBTOTAL	4,407,303	5,228,729	13,388,326	14,280,429
Management and fundraising	1,469,101	1,742,910	4,462,775	4,760,143
TOTAL	\$ 5,876,404	\$ 6,971,639	\$ 17,851,101	\$ 19,040,572