



World Vision®



CHILD
PROTECTION

KENYA » SEMIANNUAL REPORT: October 2019 through March 2020

Prepared July 2020

CHILD PROTECTION IN KENYA

PROGRAM UPDATE

167,499 PEOPLE were provided access to child protection activities since the beginning of the project, all during the first half of fiscal year 2020 (October 2019 through March 2020).

135 AREA ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS trained to ensure that children are protected from all forms of abuse at community levels

45 FAITH LEADERS trained on Celebrating Families (see page 4) to reflect the benefits of the healthy relationship model, practice good parenting skills, and train groups in their congregations

270 PEOPLE joined 44 Savings for Transformation groups, saving money collectively to improve their economic situations and reduce the financial incentives of child marriage

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The launch of the Kenya Big Dream project in FY20 featured introductory community meetings, a baseline study, life skills trainings, and wide promotion of World Vision's latest efforts to reduce violence against children.

The new project expands and deepens the Kenya Child Protection project that finished in FY19. Kenya Big Dream continues efforts to reduce female genital mutilation (FGM), child marriage, and physical violence against children.

It also works to strengthen livelihoods, heal family relationships, and promote education.

Kenya Big Dream serves children and families in nine wards in West Pokot and Baringo counties—triple the wards and double the counties from the previous project.

Although some of our work preceded the COVID-19 pandemic, restricted travel, closed schools, and banned gatherings followed, making girls more vulnerable. While this affected our planned activities, we adjusted to serve participants in a safe manner.

Thanks to your partnership, children can better reach their potential and community members can learn to take action to protect children.



GOAL AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Five-year program goal through fiscal year 2024: Provide access to child protection activities for:

307,011 PEOPLE, including 87,836 children and youth

Expected outcomes:

Girls and boys play an active role in influencing change among their peers, parents, and communities.

Households are empowered to nurture, support, and protect children from all forms of abuse.

Communities provide a safe protective environment for children to thrive.

Formal systems and structures are strengthened at the national and subnational levels for child protection.

COVID-19 AND CHILD PROTECTION

The COVID-19 crisis is impacting every country where World Vision operates, directly as well as indirectly. In Kenya, that especially includes communities in West Pokot and Baringo, both highly vulnerable to economic and social shocks.

The pandemic exacerbates existing vulnerabilities and creates new ones. This is especially true in fragile and conflict-affected contexts where girls

and boys already face heightened risks of violence. COVID-19 could have far-reaching impacts on the effort to end female genital mutilation and early marriage.

In Kenya, child protection activities—such as encouraging the reporting of abuse—are crucial to helping children and their families not only survive this pandemic, but emerge resilient, with durable hope for the future. While

disruptions and necessary restrictions related to the spread of COVID-19 has changed some aspects of our work in Kenya, we remain committed to eliminating FGM and child marriage.

Thank you for partnering with World Vision and responding to God's call to care for our neighbors, near and far. We are truly grateful for your choice to stand with us as we face this unprecedented challenge.



World Vision child protection program locations:

WEST POKOT

- BATEI
- CHEPARERIA
- ENDO
- KASEI
- MASOL
- SEKER
- SOOK

BARINGO

- TIRIOKO
- SILALE

SEMIANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS

New project begins with training and focus on child protection

In the first six months of Kenya Big Dream, communities were trained to protect children and reduce FGM and child marriage through forums, life skills training for teachers, and Celebrating Families (see below). These trainings were designed to help community members understand and take action on child protection issues.

Other accomplishments, some occurring prior to COVID-19, included:

- 1,212 children at high risk of abuse enrolled in school and started their studies following community awareness sessions on the importance of education.

- An access-to-education fund was established to provide a one-time boost to girls identified as being bright but at high risk. Home visits to potential beneficiaries helped to ensure community ownership of the process, as well as prompt parents/guardians to develop other resources to provide a boost to girls identified as academically promising but in danger of child marriage and/or FGM.
- 13 teachers from 13 primary schools in Masol participated in a training on life skills facilitated by the Ministry of Education.

Participants will roll down the training to their respective schools so that girls at high risk can better handle challenges of daily life.

- 20 girls were selected by their peers to continue their secondary school education, supported by one-year scholarships provided through the project.
- Four primary schools were identified to receive government support to be upgraded, with dormitories included as

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FAMILY CELEBRATION

45 faith leaders were trained in Celebrating Families, which emphasizes healing family relationships with a biblical model of forgiveness, love, and compassion. The model helps cultivate honest conversations and create a safe and nurturing home environment.

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

430 children in three primary schools were trained in life skills and children's rights in collaboration with the Ministry of Education. The knowledge gained will be transferred to peers and parents. The project aims to establish or strengthen children's rights clubs in 90 schools.

RADIO MESSAGES

Awareness of child protection issues, including FGM and child marriage, were promoted through 39 prime-time messages broadcast by three radio stations with a cumulative reach of 156,000 listeners. This helped us engage with communities after the pandemic disrupted some trainings and forums.



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temporary shelters for girls at risk of child marriage and FGM.

- Project support has been bolstered with other funding, including UNICEF grants on accelerating abandonment of FGM, and grants won by World Vision's WASH (water, sanitation, and hygiene) program, mostly for community training and promoting mass awareness through radio.
- Eight children participated in World Vision's children forum in Nairobi. Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta committed to ending FGM by 2022.

- In working to protect children, the project used existing structures (such as women and farmer groups, and area advisory councils) instead of duplicating them. Community members will be trained in advocacy through the Citizen Voice and Action platform to help them gain resources from the county and central governments.
- The project leverages government structures that support deterrence of FGM and reporting of child abuse. Sook and Chepareia wards already have area advisory councils. Many wards in West Pokot and Baringo lack functional systems, and the project plans to work with local

government to establish and strengthen them.

- West Pokot has been linked to the database for the National Child Protection Information System, which houses all reported abuse cases for further action. The system is hosted at the county's headquarters in Kapenguria, and many cases in the interior of West Pokot go unreported. The project is working closely with the Department of Children Services to ensure the system, and access to it, are strengthened across the project.

A worldview of empowerment to help reduce the pressure leading to FGM and child marriage

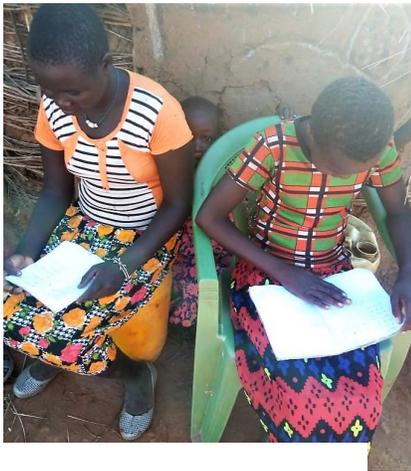
Community members will be trained in Empowered Worldview, a faith-based approach to helping communities shift from dependency to empowerment—both economically and in the belief that they can break the cycle of poverty. With that foundation, the project will work to strengthen livelihoods to help reduce the economic pressure on families to marry off their daughters. This will include promoting 44 Savings for Transformation groups, in which participants save money collectively and loan to each other to help pay for such needs as school fees or business startup costs. Later, after training, group members can be linked to microfinance institutions to obtain larger loans.

BASELINE SURVEY CONDUCTED

Through Upward Bound, a consultant, World Vision conducted a baseline survey of 873 households that found high levels of poverty and illiteracy exacerbate the problem of FGM, while rising income is strongly linked to reducing that practice.

Among the findings in this initial research to start the project:

- 25% of children aged 12 to 18 experienced physical violence in the past 12 months.
- Between 15% and 44% of girls, depending on location, reported they had undergone FGM and continued school. Between 18% and 48% of girls who had married as children likewise reported they had undergone FGM and continued school.
- 18% of parents or caregivers reported that one or more daughters had undergone FGM.
- 13% of participants (up to age 25) in youth programs completed their formal education in the past year.
- The top reason cited by FGM proponents was the wealth a dowry would bring to the family (mentioned by 30%), followed by the view that FGM is a cultural rite signifying passage into adulthood (25%). Child marriage proponents cited similar top reasons: the wealth acquired through a dowry (62%) and child marriage as a necessary step following FGM (13%).
- In the 12 months preceding the survey, girls underwent FGM in 30% of the households in Silale, 29% in Tirioko, 14% in Masol, and 7% in Seker. These areas will be emphasized in combating FGM.



“I am now secure and protected. I can learn and achieve my dreams. I thank God for World Vision.”

—Jane,* 15, above left

‘THE BEST PLACE TO BE’

She was forced to undergo FGM, then married off as a young teenager to provide a bride price of 49 animals for her father. After escaping that marriage, she received the opportunity to attend school for the first time.

When Jane* was a young girl, her mother passed away. Her father viewed her as a prospective bride price—“a source of wealth,” she said.

The 15-year-old girl had never attended school because of her family’s poverty and deep cultural beliefs against it.

In late 2019, Jane was forced to undergo FGM, then married off to a man who promised her father seven cows, 40 goats, two camels, and local brew.

“This was a violation of my rights as a child still needing care and protection from a parent,” Jane said. “I stayed for seven days. When an opportunity presented itself, I sneaked out of that marriage.”

Walking stealthily to avoid detection, she traveled more than 30 miles in two days to search for her aunt’s home.

Upon arrival in the village, she found her uncle speaking—fittingly, on the importance of education and the impact of child marriage—at a World Vision public meeting.

She waited at a distance, listening to the discussion until she had an opportunity to approach him.

“I introduced myself to my uncle, who could not remember me very well,” Jane said. “He then took me to his homestead.”

Following a discussion involving Jane, her aunt, and her uncle, she started her education in January 2020.

She started in a pre-primary class, then was twice moved up a grade level.

“A few weeks after she made notable improvement, and upon giving her an aptitude test, we noted that it was fair [to] promote her to grade two,” her head teacher said.

“This was until the government announced the closure of schools over [the] COVID-19 pandemic.”

Even with her education on hold, the school is “the best place to be,” Jane said. “I am now secure and protected. I can learn and achieve my dreams.”

**Name changed to protect identity*

FINANCIALS

Program Spending October 2019 through March 2020

Activity Description	Fiscal Year-to-Date Spending	Project-to-Date Spending	Project-to-Date Budget Through End of March FY20
Outcome 1: Girls and boys play an active role in influencing change among their peers, parents, and communities in ending FGM and child marriage.	\$ 15,150	\$ 15,150	\$ 199,395
Child-led education and active engagement enhanced in ending FGM and child marriage	12,053	12,053	80,982
High-risk girls develop skills and resilience for positive asset development, including learning the importance of spacing children at healthy intervals and safely preventing pregnancy	-	-	27,436
Survivors and extremely high-risk girls access appropriate educational and vocational training opportunities	3,097	3,097	75,924
Barriers to education reduced for vulnerable girls	-	-	15,053
Outcome 2: Households are empowered to protect, nurture, and support girls and boys from all forms of abuse.	20,229	20,229	260,115
Capacity of community members enhanced to implement Empowered Worldview in the community	-	-	52,259
Targeted households (including those with extremely at-risk girls and women who no longer perform FGM) have completed livelihoods training and received productive assets	-	-	122,125
Households increase their savings and access to financial services through participation in Savings for Transformation groups	-	-	18,177
Parents/caregivers provide parenting support for their children at different development stages	20,229	20,229	67,554
Outcome 3: Households are empowered to protect, nurture, and support girls and boys from all forms of abuse.	14,323	14,323	226,913
Community-led public awareness, education, and mobilization on ending child marriage and FGM	12,062	12,062	150,231
Faith communities actively engage in protecting children and transforming harmful behavior, attitudes, and practices	-	-	73,845
Community-based reporting and referral mechanism promoted for FGM and child marriage	2,261	2,261	2,837
Outcome 4: Formal systems and structures are strengthened at national and subnational levels for child protection.	257,883	257,883	226,896
Child protection information management promoted at all levels to improve planning	-	-	-
Capacity of duty bearers strengthened to enforce laws and provide services that protect children through social accountability	-	-	43,909
External engagement and networking strengthened with government and non-state actors on ending child marriage and FGM	18,536	18,536	19,739
Monitoring, evaluation, accountability, and learning practices enhanced on ending child marriage and FGM	239,347	239,347	163,248
Subtotal	307,585	307,585	913,319
Management and Fundraising	102,528	102,528	304,440
TOTAL	\$ 410,113	\$ 410,113	\$ 1,217,759



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.

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