

SUMMARY

Through your generous support, you have helped World Vision reach 113,109 children and adults in the past six months and 1,114,412 since the Kenya Big Dream project started in 2019.

The project moved forward in the first half of FY23, launching Phase 3 (Migori County) to continue protecting vulnerable children from the harmful cultural practices of female genital mutilation (FGM) and child marriage, and other types of maltreatment.

Integrating project models has produced promising results in the three phases of Kenya Big Dream. In Phase 1 (West Pokot and Baringo counties), the project continued to transform mindsets and finances, empowering caregivers to better provide for their children and not marry off their daughters for a bride price in the face of poverty. In Phase 2 (Samburu County), we helped different generations understand the need for change and prepare for alternatives

to FGM as a cultural precursor to marriage. In Phase 3, the project highlighted the need to address commonly held spiritual beliefs that perpetuate FGM in communities.

Highlights of Kenya Big Dream’s impact so far in FY23:

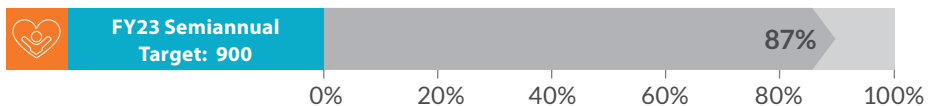
- Various child-related stakeholders collaborated with World Vision to train participants in Citizen Voice in Action in Nomboroi (Samburu County), teaching them to be engaged in their communities. Participants learned about government laws and policies opposing FGM and sexual offenses. A day after the training, nine girls destined for child marriage removed their bride-to-be necklaces and enrolled in school.
- 304 girls received help to pay their school fees since the project began.



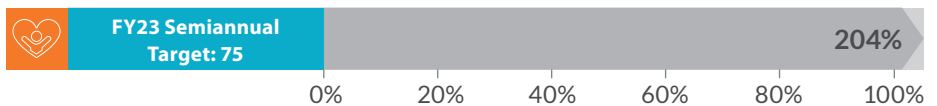
Students Joshua and Joy will benefit from a new secondary school being built in Akoret in Baringo County through the support of private donors to Kenya Big Dream. The school will include a dormitory, and the county committed to supply water. Without an opportunity to be educated, Joshua said he might be “herding goats,” while Joy thought her alternative would be to “undergo FGM and be married off ... It would be so bad.”

PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

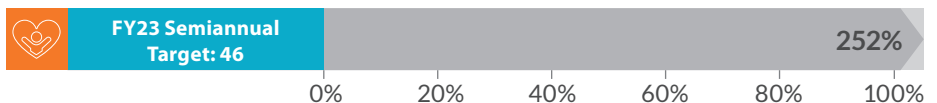
781 children graduated from five-day Alternative Rites of Passage (ARP) ceremonies.



153 Savings for Transformation groups were established.



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



- 116 participants trained to be trainers in Community Change (C-Change) and facilitated sessions in 17 communities. The sessions drew 1,351 people of different generations and resulted in a positive shift of attitudes, behaviors, and practices. This promoted the well-being of children and peace in communities experiencing conflict.
- 436 participants trained in Empowered Worldview (EWV) went on to train 963 community members.
- 141 Savings for Transformation groups continued, with 76 in West Pokot, 35 in Samburu, and 30 in Baringo. The average group member saved US \$970 in Phase 1, helping individuals run businesses and pay bills.
- 94% of savings group members reported more than one income-generating activity, while 75% indicated they now could provide well for their children, according to a recent assessment.
- 2,122 people (55% women) engaged in savings groups. With women becoming economically empowered and financially literate through running businesses and engaging in value chains (such as beekeeping, poultry farming, and grain milling), they increasingly speak up in community meetings.
- 367 people underwent training in savings groups in Phase 2, helping to establish 35 new groups, of which 25 are fully functional. Eleven people were trained in Phase 3.
- 528 farmers and 23 producer groups learned about local value chains, with 282 farmers engaged and mentored in at least one chain.
- 20 participants in Morijo (Samburu County) developed a scorecard to monitor the quality of child protection. They helped identify gaps in their communities and requested a response from those with a mandate to protect the rights of children, especially the most vulnerable. Those bearing the responsibility included police, chiefs, and faith leaders.
- 57 faith leaders gained training in Celebrating Families, with 23 reporting a better understanding of how to spiritually nurture and protect children. Monitoring visits found that 328 faith leaders, including those previously trained, were motivated to nurture children based on the tenets of their faith.



With income from her shop dwindling, Niddy Kemei (above, right) nearly gave up. But joining a Savings for Transformation group in West Pokot County last year “changed my life completely,” the mother said. “I got educated on different income-generating ideas that I started practicing immediately.” Her daily income rose from \$7.40 USD to nearly \$52 USD. Niddy is able to pay her daughter’s school fees, giving her a brighter future.



A new student dormitory in Baringo County, funded by private donors, was commissioned with a ribbon-cutting ceremony in February.

Plans move ahead for new school

Administrative savings in the project enabled World Vision to increase the budget for livelihoods and resilience work in Phase 2, help pay school fees for 51 girls removed from dangerous circumstances in Phase 3, and boost spending for books, posters, and other learning materials.

Private donors pledged \$1 million to build a secondary school in Akoret (Baringo County)—giving students their first opportunity to be educated in that community, as parents generally lacked the funds to send their children to a boarding school elsewhere. National and county governments have begun evaluating the site and school design. The community donated more than 20 acres for the school and helped clear the site.

County government committed to provide piped water for the school within six months, as well as construct a fence and gate. In addition to water for the school and community, the project asked the government to pay for security, teachers, and opportunities for graduating students to continue on to higher education or trade schools.

Awareness spreads about child protection

Kenya Big Dream continued to collaborate with local and national governments to raise wide awareness of child protection/FGM issues and to promote education. Forty-seven presentations on protecting children drew 4,738 participants, and 6,138 children attended child protection meetings. Radio talk shows reached more than 335,000 listeners, a Children’s Assembly engaged 55 children, and a public gathering attracted 278 adults.

In Baringo County, 160 students attended a youth camp designed to provide spiritual nourishment, build resilience, and support education. In West Pokot County, the project collaborated with the government and a pastors’ network to help 432 youth, focusing on mentorship, spiritual growth, education, and taking positive control of their lives.

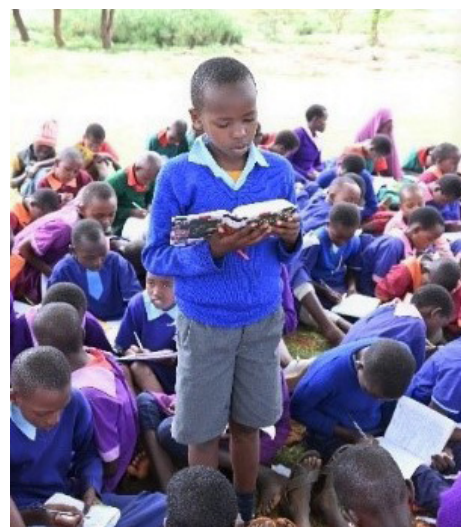
The project also worked with governments and communities to identify areas with high prevalence of FGM and to mobilize community members to protect children.

CHALLENGES AND RESPONSES

Persistent drought increased food insecurity and severely impacted the livelihoods of families that lacked water for crops and livestock grazing areas. The loss of income left families increasingly vulnerable, leading to a reported rise in both FGM and child marriage. (The increase appearing now could also possibly be related to an undercount in the initial assessment. Our Kenya staff members believe some respondents might have initially felt uncomfortable acknowledging that they participated in practices that are illegal. But after learning their rights through Kenya Big Dream, they are more willing to respond honestly.) Marrying off a daughter becomes a means to gain a bride price to feed the family and survive. In response, the project helps families improve livelihoods to reduce financial pressure leading to FGM and early marriages.



Kenya Big Dream facilitated a Children’s Assembly in Samburu County, one of dozens of project engagements with children, the community, and the government. The encounters all were designed to increase awareness of child protection and FGM issues and to promote education.



A boy reads during an Alternative Rites of Passage (ARP) graduation ceremony in Samburu County. The community now plays a major role in determining the kind of ARP, roles, and responsibilities it desires for its children.

The water shortage also impacted education. In searching for food and water for their animals, pastoralists migrated and pulled their children out of school. Other parents sought assistance to pay for school fees. We are in the process of helping drought-stricken participants through cash transfers.

With the rampant drought leaving most farms and irrigation ponds unproductive and dry, value chains not reliant on rain did better, including beekeeping, poultry, grain milling, groceries, bakeries, and selling clothing and motorbikes. To support small-scale irrigation in coming months, 54 participants trained in farm pond technology will monitor 10 ponds, each holding 66,000 gallons. This will help families grow food for themselves and for income.

West Pokot, Baringo, and Samburu counties continued to face major security threats from cattle rustling and rivalry among community groups. West Pokot and neighboring Turkana County experienced heightened tension following the slaying of police officers, leading to curfews in three counties and affecting implementation of some project activities. Our staff members looked to guidance from police, World Vision's security team, and relevant stakeholders.

LOOKING AHEAD

From April through September 2023, we plan to:

- Move a cohort of students who have graduated from the Kongor Accelerated Learning Program (KALEP)—designed for children who have been denied the opportunity to gain a formal education—to the Ministry of Education's school system. Students on the KALEP waiting list will form the next cohort.
- Use a social norms assessment tool to implement the project. World Vision received training in the tool through our partnership with Georgetown University professors. We also will identify community members to help with program monitoring.
- Complete assessment for baseline (Phase 3), local value chains, and Gender Equity and Social Inclusion.
- Develop a working agreement with the University of Nairobi to become a learning partner in the project.



Enrollment more than doubled to 213 students at Kasepa Primary School in West Pokot County after construction of two more classrooms and two four-stall latrines. Support came from community members, Kenya Big Dream, and county and national governments. This enabled Kasepa to be approved as a middle school. Thanks to the classrooms and latrines, “we are now happy and enjoying our studies,” said Rovina Chepangat (above, right), a seventh-grader. He asked his parents to “leave us to be in school and not force us [into] FGM and child marriage” or to take care of animals, but to “allow us [to] enjoy learning because World Vision is sent by God to help children like us.”

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

1,114,412 people (84% of the goal) have engaged with education, protection, and/or community action activities to create a safer environment for children.



THANK YOU

Ending FGM and child marriage starts with a change of mindset and the realization that education leads to a better future.

“The world is changing,” said Baba (right), an elder who attended a community dialogue involving different clans. “The only way for us to achieve what other communities have done is by taking our kids to school by all means,” he said, while urging people to come together to fight FGM.

Thanks to your faithful support and inspired leadership, people like Baba are influencing their communities—and Kenya Big Dream is becoming a reality for more children, changing their futures, and bringing hope to them and their families.

Elders like Baba (above) promote education for students, such as those (below, left) in Samburu County attending a Children’s Assembly, an advocacy forum and leadership development module focusing on child protection issues.



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For more information visit:
[worldvisionphilanthropy.org/
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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.

FINANCIALS

Program spending October 2022 through March 2023 in US\$

Description	FY23 Spending	FY23 Funding	Project-to-Date Spending	Project-to-Date Funding
Outcome 1: Children and adolescents are empowered to become constructive citizens	\$ 639,743	\$ 1,731,784	\$ 2,301,776	\$ 3,340,237
Children and adolescents are engaged in ending abusive practices	250,356	381,038	704,100	879,714
Children and adolescents complete secondary or vocational school	389,387	1,350,746	1,597,676	2,460,523
Outcome 2: Children have a caring, safe, and supportive environment	685,266	1,693,183	2,782,730	3,866,664
Caregivers and those who perform FGM have increased economic security	355,783	1,044,533	1,317,508	2,026,522
Caregivers and community members join campaign to stop violence against children (VAC) and engage in anti-VAC activities	235,631	453,584	1,141,026	1,410,618
Caregiver parenting skills are enhanced	93,852	195,066	324,196	429,524
Outcome 3: Systems and structures for child protection are functional	318,629	797,727	1,090,766	1,549,334
Community-based systems and structures for child protection are accessible	42,422	143,340	159,038	272,041
Implementation of current laws and policies on FGM and child marriage are improved	276,207	654,387	931,728	1,277,293
Akoret Secondary School Construction Project	2,410	589,296	2,410	589,296
SUBTOTAL	1,646,048	4,811,990	6,177,682	9,345,531
Management and fundraising	548,683	1,603,997	2,059,227	3,115,177
TOTAL	\$ 2,194,731	\$ 6,415,987	\$ 8,236,909	\$ 12,460,708