



SEMIANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

October 2020 – March 2021 | Child Protection Fund

SUMMARY

Every girl and boy deserves a childhood where violence and exploitation never enter their lives. But around the world, millions of children are robbed of their dignity, rights, and futures.

Their traumatic experiences might include child marriage, neglect, sexual abuse, physical abuse, child labor, or other damaging practices. The root causes stem from harmful traditions, parents' lack of education, and poverty.

World Vision is grateful for your partnership to help end violence, abuse, and loss of opportunities for vulnerable children in Bangladesh, Guatemala, India, and Kenya. Nearly 300,000 people benefited in the first half of FY21.

In Bangladesh, children are pulled from perilous jobs and receive

catch-up educational services. In Guatemala, communities work with police to create safer and more trusted relationships to reduce violence and migration. In India, a new referral network reports child sex trafficking and abuse to authorities and supports survivors. In Kenya, elders and community leaders initiated a national declaration against female genital mutilation/cutting.

We supported or achieved those developments during the COVID-19 pandemic, a time that increased economic pressure on parents to have their children work or marry, or leave their communities.

Thank you for joining us and our community partners to help ensure that children are better able to live up to their full potential in some of the most challenging areas where we work.



Youth in Guatemala used mobile technology and recording equipment to create videos with messages about preventing violence and migration. This activity came about through a collaboration with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

GLOBAL UPDATE & PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

PEOPLE, INCLUDING 1,419,987 CHILDREN AND YOUTH, have 3,798,432 PEOPLE, INCLUDING 1,419,987 CHILDREN AND YOUTH, It benefited from our child protection projects since they began. These projects benefited 334,970 people in FY21.



schools in Guatemala implemented violence prevention plans in coordination with police, part of an effort to address violence and migration and their underlying causes.



Girl Power groups in India were formed, with 10,003 girls trained to recognize signs of abusive relationships and dangerous situations.



children in Kenya graduated from alternative rites of passage ceremonies, where they gained an understanding of the dangers of female genital mutilation, while maintaining their cultural identity.

BANGLADESH

SUMMARY

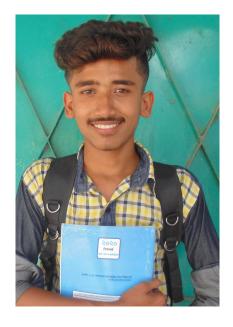
We are pleased to report that the Jiboner Jannya (Well-Being of Life) Project has surpassed the Life-Of-Program goal of reaching 62,991 people with activities that protect children from labor and all forms of violence within supportive families and communities.

Although some project activities had to be postponed due to ongoing COVID-19 restrictions in Bangladesh, our staff adapted by scaling down the size of events and workshops, emphasizing good hygiene, and using mobile technology to monitor and get updates on children. World Vision also provided awareness messages in project communities with updated information on COVID-19, and how to prevent it.

Our top priority was maintaining support for families and children. We provided 182 families with

monthly conditional cash transfers after removing their children from hazardous labor, to help ease financial strains caused by the pandemic and reduce the likelihood of their children returning to work.

In addition to receiving catch-up education services at Child-Friendly Learning and Recreation Centers (CFLRCs), children removed from the most dangerous forms of labor also participate in Life Skills Based Education (LSBE) groups. These groups help youth build character, cope with emotions and stress, and develop strong problem-solving, decision-making, and communication skills. In this reporting period, the project established seven new LSBEs with a total of 180 participants. We trained seven new peer educators to lead the groups and develop annual action plans.



"I [felt] very tired of working.

I wanted to go to school."

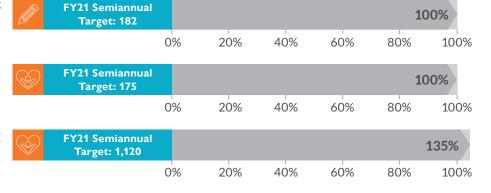
After missing years of school and working 10-hour days in a restaurant, 16-year-old Hurairah received catch-up education from World Vision's Child Friendly Learning and Recreation Center.

PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

182 children were removed from the worst forms of child labor and enrolled in school.

175 children were legally registered as citizens and received birth certificates.

1,514 people increased their understanding of child labor and child protection issues.



GUATEMALA

SUMMARY

In its fifth year, the Guatemala Child Protection Project, also referred to as the Community Roots Project,* has helped create safer communities to protect children and youth, ages 8 to 24, from unsafe migration and violence at the individual, family, and community levels in Guatemala's most vulnerable regions.

Across the 80 project communities, 81% of all activities planned for the year have been implemented. Despite the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, World Vision pursued alternative options to continue working and surpassed many of our project goals (see chart below).

Coordination with the National Police

The National Civil Police are a key partner in helping communities implement their Violence and Migration Prevention Plans.

The Community Roots project

offers training to municipal police departments in community organization and participation, increasing the likelihood that people will see them as a trusted partner in reducing crime and helping create safer communities. During this reporting period, 60 police officers were selected as candidates for the Violence and Migration Prevention diploma course. In addition, the project donated 300 violence prevention tool kits to the National Police Crime Prevention Unit.

Referral and Support Networks

Community members are trained to identify, refer, and enroll children and youth in the secondary prevention services offered through the project. As a result, 4,661 youth were referred for alternative education, technical-vocational training, and psychosocial care over the past six months.



"I always believed that God would help me find a way to help out my family. I want to succeed here in Aguacatan, because I know that my future is here in my country," says Yenni, a high school student in Agua Blanca, Aguacatan. Through FUNCAFE, Yenni learned computer skills, which led to an internship at a local radio station.

PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

55 schools implemented violence prevention plans in coordination with police.

1,128 children and youth received support to attend school or vocational training.

96 program participants obtained jobs or internships.



^{*}Community Roots Project is the name used by USAID. The five-year project is being implemented with financial support from USAID, partners, and other organizations in Guatemala.

INDIA

SUMMARY

Thank you for your faithful partnership with World Vision to serve children and their families in Assam and West Bengal.

Assam

In the red-light district of Silchar, World Vision established a Child-Friendly Learning and Recreation Center (CFLRC), which provides education, nutrition, and mental health for children. We are the only nongovernmental organization working in this district, the largest and oldest brothel in northeast India.

A referral network was created to report child sex trafficking and sexual and gender-based violence cases to the police, and to support survivors. The network was set up in partnership with the Assam police department, child care providers, child welfare committees, and civil society organizations.

More than 10,000 girls are part of Girl Power group training, which equips girls to recognize the signs of abusive relationships and dangerous situations. World Vision staff members facilitated 19 Girl Power group and police

meetings to help develop a relationship between the girls and police officers. One Girl Power group member came forward to report a runaway, who was her friend.

West Bengal

Due to an increase in COVID-19 cases, government regulations limited program implementation. However, the team hosted Channels of Hope and Celebrating Families workshops, which equips parents and caregivers tools to support children well-being. We also developed training programs for child protection agencies and campaigns for the international days against violence toward women and children.

Muslim and Hindu faith leaders participated in the Channels of Hope-Child Protection workshop, which focused on the important role they have in their communities to stand against child trafficking and child marriage.

A total of 98 people participated in the survivor's support program, which provides mental health support as well as online safety awareness training.



In Child-Friendly Learning and Recreation Centers, children learn life skills and personal safety. In West Bengal, where schools were closed during the pandemic lockdown, CFLRCs were one of the only locations where children could receive learning materials. Enrollment and vocational training both increased at the centers.

PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

Assam

- 10,003 girls mobilized into 230 Girl Power groups.
- 756 men completed legal awareness training.
- 64 faith leaders completed Channels of Hope-Child Protection training.

West Bengal

- 7,762 children educated to prevent trafficking and promote safe migration.
- 171 girls participated in Girl Power groups.
- 219 men engaged in Men Care groups that teach how to protect children.

KENYA

SUMMARY

The Kenya Big Dream project continues to help children experience life in all its fullness, through eradicating female genital mutilation and cutting (FGM/C) and child marriage in Baringo and West Pokot.

Notably, elders and community members initiated a national declaration and public cursing against FGM/C and child marriage. "This is a day like no other," stated a Pokot elder, "FGM/C has been the norm after which girls as young as nine years are subjected to marriage. As Pokot Elders, we have seen the need to stop this because this is hurting our children."

A value chain assessment was completed to support these child protection efforts. The assessment helped identify opportunities to improve food security for vulnerable households. Following the results,

farmers will learn needed technical skills and will be more equipped to access markets with the most desirable goods. When households have greater food security, children are less vulnerable to child marriage

In addition to the core activities listed below, other achievements include:

- 2,022 children were empowered with knowledge and key life skills to protect and prepare them for the challenges of life.
- 300 children and 200 parents participated in a spiritual nurture of children training, empowering them to express and experience the love of God.
- 42 traditional FGM/C circumcisers, including parents, abandoned their tools of mutilation and embraced change, including their livelihoods.



A young woman from the Kasei community in West Pokot reads the Bible during a training on the spiritual nurture of children.

PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

437 children graduated from alternative rites of passage ceremonies.

29 savings groups were established.

480 participants enrolled in classes about community change.

14 children reported child protection data to World Vision.



FINANCIALS

Child Protection Fund (October 2016 through March 2021)

\$11,210,029 program-to-date funding

69%

THANK YOU

World Vision is grateful for your partnership in helping children and youth gain fullness of life and freedom from violence and exploitation. Thank you for your willingness to help them and their families overcome deep challenges and emerge resilient. Your support continues to be instrumental in stemming the tide of violence, changing futures, and offering hope.



In March, 52 children and youth who were removed from hazardous labor participated in a community birthday celebration at the CFLRC in Jessore in Bangladesh. Most of them had never experienced a birthday party. Events like this show children they are loved and valued, and that their lives are to be celebrated.



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