



SEMIANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

October 2021 – March 2022 | Christian Discipleship Fund

SUMMARY

The tender heart of Jesus is reflected in His view of the young: "Let the little children come to me ... " (Matthew 19:14, NIV). Thank you for sharing Jesus' heart for children by supporting World Vision's Christian Discipleship Fund, which equips churches and children's ministry leaders with training and resources to help young people develop their faith.

Your gift helped advance the formation of values in children and youth, scale up <u>Biblical Empowered Worldview</u> (BEWV) as a project model, and provide access to Bibles to integrate Scripture in our development programming. These areas are key in living out our

Christian faith and calling. They also contribute to children experiencing God's love in Jesus in the context of their families and communities.

Our projects reached 1.2 million new people in the first half of fiscal year 2022. Your support also helped us launch the Let the Children Come to Jesus (LCCJ) project in 14 countries in Africa, Asia Pacific, and Central America. Integral to our discipleship work is the spiritual nurture of children—creating an environment with opportunities and information to help children develop spiritually and experience God's love.

Thank you for joining us in bringing the word of God—and hope.



World Vision's Christian
Discipleship Fund supports
the spiritual development of
children. Charmaine (above)
gives feedback during a training
in Zimbabwe.

GLOBAL UPDATE AND PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

7,489,938

PASTORS, CHRISTIAN LEADERS, TEACHERS, PARENTS, CHILDREN, AND

YOUTH have been equipped with the training and resources they need for young people to learn Bible-based life skills and to explore or deepen their faith in Jesus Christ since October 2015, including 1,248,517 new people in the first half of FY22.



689,478

children and youth directly participated in Christian discipleship activities since October 2015, including 122,859 new participants in the first half of FY22.



795,839

people were impacted directly and indirectly by the scale-up of BEWV during Phase 2, which started in the first half of FY22, adding to the 1.9 million participants from Phase 1.



244,624

Bibles have been made available, benefiting 1,223,120 people. In the first half of FY22 alone, 23,944 Bibles benefited 119,720 people.



48,723

pastors and church leaders were trained in theology and children's ministry, including 15,328 new participants in the first half of FY22.



6,940

churches engaged in Christian discipleship of children and youth, including 1,301 new churches in the first half of FY22.

AFRICA

SUMMARY

In seven countries across Africa, World Vision works with churches and other partners in the Let the Children Come to Jesus project to help children develop their faith. Highlights thus far in FY22 include:

Ghana: In partnership with Awana Ghana and J-Life Ghana, we provided training on organization, spiritual nurturing, and child protection to Kids Club facilitators, faith leaders, and Sunday school teachers.

Kenya: The project established partnerships with Kenya Conference of Catholic Bishops (to help provide instructional materials to 28,000 primary schools) and Scripture Union and Child Evangelism Fellowship (to support spiritual nurturing of children across project sites). Partnersupported resources include childfriendly Bibles and devotional guides.

Ethiopia: We conducted orientation sessions for 154 of our staff and 196 faith-based and community leaders to share the basics of the project.

Rwanda: We carried out spiritual nurture activities for 5,031 children and youth in five schools in partnership with Scripture Union and

Adventist, Anglican, and Catholic churches, using Bible stories and related materials.

Mozambique: Our partnerships with the Council of Religions of Mozambique and OneHope ministry made possible the translation of the Journey of Hope booklet into Portuguese. We trained 175 pastors and others on Dare to Discover.

Democratic Republic of the Congo: World Vision reached 7,780 people with <u>Channels of Hope for Child</u> <u>Protection</u> and Celebrating Families.

Zimbabwe: We engaged 2,919 children and youth through Dare to Discover, BEWV, and Reach 4 Life.

Key learning

Kenya: We reached more participants cost-effectively through community forums with faith leaders and using churches as training sites.

Plans for the next six months

All countries: We will train data collectors, hold workshops on Celebrating Families and child-focused Christian discipleship activities, and complete initial baseline evaluations.



"Let the Children Come
[to Jesus] has taught me how
to care for my friends and
others. One way I can do this
is by sharing God's word with
them and encouraging them to
attend [Kids] Club meetings,
because we learn a lot of things
there. ... I know God better and
understand that He is always
loving and fair."

-Comfort, Ghana

PARTICIPANT UPDATE



265,317

people participated directly (61,304) and indirectly (204,013) in LCCJ, including 107,228 children and youth, in the first half of FY22.



16,815



5

Christian church leaders and other faith and community leaders participated in LCCJ in the first half of FY22.

partners, mostly churches and faith-based organizations, participated in LCCJ in the first half of FY22.

ASIA PACIFIC

SUMMARY

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, World Vision connected with partners and participants in three countries in Asia to promote spiritual development through the LCCJ project. Highlights thus far in FY22 include:

Philippines: The project helped 13,376 children participate in spiritual nurture activities, including the use of reflection and prayer journals. The activities, which can be completed independently by children, worked well in areas with restrictions on gatherings during the pandemic.

Indonesia: We collaborated with faith leaders to train 297 parents and caregivers in Parenting with Love, with 53 participants then engaging in a support group. Parenting with Love is based on Celebrating Families, contextualized using locally acceptable parenting trainings and content from government programs. It focuses on increasing the capacity of faith leaders and parents.

Vietnam: The project trained caregivers in Celebrating Families, teaching them to care for and nurture

their children's spiritual growth. We followed up with 63 post-training sessions for 1,060 parents and caregivers. Some participants spoke of difficulty in nurturing their children, as well as success in finding solutions and connecting with their spouses and children.

Challenges and adaptations

Philippines, Indonesia, and Vietnam: Surges of COVID-19 cases

led to movement restrictions in communities, delaying activities and lowering our ability to reach targets. Our teams worked strategically to ensure spiritual nurture of children in the community. In the Philippines, we focused on areas with less pandemic restrictions. In Indonesia, we leveraged the project's impact by integrating it with World Vision's child sponsorship programming.

Plans for the next six months

All countries: We will conduct initial baseline evaluations along with a vulnerability survey in Indonesia. In Vietnam, we will provide Celebrating Family trainings as well as post-training sessions for parents, caregivers, and support groups.



"I am so lucky to have a chance to participate in [Dare to Discover] with my friends in my school's youth club. ... I was able to clearly understand who I am and what my true worth is. When I discover my life's purpose and find motivation to pursue it, I feel that life is truly meaningful and valuable. I have identified my dream and am confident that I can achieve it."

-Dong, Vietnam

PARTICIPANT UPDATE



66,768

people participated directly (16,947) and indirectly (49,821) in LCCJ, including 15,631 children and youth, in the first half of FY22.



294



66

Christian church leaders and other faith and community leaders participated in LCCJ in the first half of FY22.

partners, mostly churches and faith-based organizations, participated in LCCJ in the first half of FY22.

CENTRAL AMERICA

SUMMARY

World Vision's LCCJ project trainings and collaborations with partners in four Central American countries give children the opportunity to learn about God's love and grow spiritually. Highlights thus far in FY22 include:

El Salvador: We made progress in sharing the project with stakeholders, including four of the eight national dioceses of the Catholic Church, along with six Protestant denominations so far.

Honduras and El Salvador: Building on the mentoring program's Phase 1 successes, Baylor University has started a research study on the impact of the mentoring model in Honduras and El Salvador.

Nicaragua: We have identified 13 existing and potential partners in project communities and considered how to engage with them. The partners represent 1,033 churches and 53 schools and colleges from various denominations and faith-based communities, and approximately 53,000 children and youth.

Guatemala: The project received the endorsement of two of the eight bishops of Iglesia de Dios Evangelio Completo (IDEC), one of the largest denominations in the country, enabling us to begin engaging with 100 churches. We are working to promote the project in two of the denomination's branches that include 500 ministry leaders.

Challenges and key learnings

El Salvador: Finishing the project design and starting the initial baseline evaluation proved challenging because they involved coordinating with four participating countries and the support office.

Guatemala: Our teams learned the importance of continuing to foster good relationships with churches and faith-based organizations, helping them to increase their confidence in working with us.

Plans for the next six months

All countries: We will conduct initial baseline evaluations and Celebrating Families trainings, including postworkshop sessions for parents.



"Thanks to God and [World Vision's teaching on the tenderness of God], little by little I have shaped many aspects of my life. I hope with the Lord's help, and what I have learned, I will continue to change more day by day. [I will also] transmit to others the power of tenderness, which is part of God's love, which changes and transforms lives."

-Isaura Maria, Honduras

PARTICIPANT UPDATE





people, all church leaders, participated directly in LCCJ in the first half of FY22. During this first six months of implementation, we focused on training of trainers and establishing partnerships to prepare for the second half of FY22, when we expect to reach children and families more directly.



churches participated in LCCJ in the first half of FY22.

BIBLICAL EMPOWERED WORLDVIEW

SUMMARY

World Vision launched Phase 2 of BEWV in FY22 and reached nearly 800,000 people, both directly and indirectly. We focused on integrating BEWV into the strategies of select national and regional offices, making it an essential part of our work in livelihoods and nutrition, community engagement and child sponsorship, and water, sanitation, and hygiene.

Indirect participants included people who took part in community workshops or groups led by project trainers, as well as children and other family members of participants.

In partnership with OneHope, we developed Empower!, a BEWV curriculum adapted for children ages 8 to 12. We piloted Empower! with 1,212 children in our Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, and Uganda national offices. Children applied program principles in their lives and with their families, schools, and communities. Findings from the pilot will help shape the

final curriculum later this year. In Kenya and Zimbabwe, children trained in Empower! addressed the impacts of extreme weather—and demonstrated a proactive approach to help counter them—by planting trees in schools and homes.

We trained Zimbabwean teachers from targeted area programs in BEWV and saw them experience personal transformations. Educators who previously lost hope over their low wages started their own incomegenerating projects. Children did also, like the ones who helped raise poultry at Nyambi Primary School.

In West Africa, where we work in certain Muslim-majority countries, we developed an approach to use Bible verses that parallel Islamic texts. This promoted a mutual understanding of other faiths. We plan to adapt our approach as we as we work across World Vision's partnership of offices.



"The [Biblical Empowered Worldview] training made me understand that being a Christian does not mean that one has to be poor, and being a pastor does not make one the congregants' burden. But every human being was created with a God-given talent of being productive."

-Pastor Zenzo Moyo, Zimbabwe, who was inspired to raise turkeys to pay for his children's education

GLOBAL UPDATE AND PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES



795,839

people impacted directly and indirectly by the scale-up of BEWV during Phase 2, which started in FY22, adding to the 1.9 million from Phase 1.



166,046

people participated directly in BEWV workshops during Phase 2, adding to the nearly 230,000 reached during Phase 1.



46,437

children and youth participated in BEWV activities and benefited directly from their families implementing new Phase 2 initiatives, adding to the 1.5 million reached during Phase 1.



336

partner organizations (mostly churches and other groups) participated in BEWV workshops during Phase 2, adding to the 2,065 reached during Phase 1.

INTERNATIONAL BIBLE FUND

SUMMARY

Thank you for sharing the hope and good news of Christ through your support of the International Bible Fund. With your partnership, World Vision has provided 23,944 Bibles to 119,720 people in two countries so far in FY22.

In Malawi and Peru, we offered a range of materials—full versions of the Bible, New Testaments, children's Bibles, study resources, audio Bibles, and Bibles in English and in local languages—enabling us to reach diverse audiences while remaining sensitive to cultural practices and literacy levels. Audio recordings also meant we could share the Word in an accessible way with those who are visually impaired.

Highlights from Malawi

In Malawi, 77% of the population is Christian, yet 57% of believers live in rural areas where poverty levels are high, and they cannot afford to purchase a Bible. In response, World Vision distributed 16,446 Bibles to children, youth, pastors, and families, including 120 audio versions for those who are visually impaired, benefiting 82,230 people. Alick Phiri, who has served as a pastor since 2007 and who opened a church in Kande, says, "This gift is indeed a precious one, since over 30 members of my church will be listening from God as they read the Bible in their home and in their language, Tonga."

Highlights from Peru

In Peru, we shared 7,498 Bibles, benefiting 37,490 children, youth, and parents. Local church leaders were also equipped to hold Everything Starts with Tenderness workshops in their communities. The biblically based series resources parents and caregivers, aiming to reduce violence against children, promote peaceful relationships, and increase the capacity of local churches to disciple their communities.

Looking ahead

Thanks to the generous support of donors like you, World Vision will distribute 64,000 Bibles in Angola, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lesotho, and Papua New Guinea in the coming months.



Members of a Bible club in southern Malawi (pictured above) received a Bible through the International Bible Fund. "I would like to thank you so much for giving me and my friends a gift of a Bible. I will be reading at home and take it to church every Sunday," said 8-year-old Floney Machani (not pictured).

PARTICIPANT UPDATE AND PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES



1,223,120

people have benefited from Bibles provided through the International Bible Fund since July 2016, including 119,720 in the first half of FY22.



244,624

Bibles have been made available since July 2016, including 23,944 in the first half of FY22.

THANK YOU

World Vision works around the globe to help families—especially children—and Christian leaders experience God's love in Jesus and follow His example in discipleship. Our approach is context-specific and uses project models and interventions tailored to each individual region. Our goal is to remove hindrances and create opportunities for all children to understand, encounter, and share the love of God.

Thank you for partnering with us in work that is central to who we are and what we value. Your support of our Christian Discipleship Fund is an investment in lives transformed. May God bless you as you join us in helping to change generations and bring fullness of life to communities, families, and children.

Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.

—Proverbs 22:6 (NIV)



Mr. Larbi (above, right), a facilitator for a Kids Club in Zimbabwe called Future Leaders, takes his students through a Bible lesson. He uses a discipleship handbook designed for students and published by World Vision. The introduction of Bible lessons to club activities has helped generate interest in Future Leaders and increase student participation.

FINANCIALS

The following financial reports cover October 2021 through March 2022, except for International Bible Fund, which is from October 2016 through March 2022.



\$3,807,001 program-to-date funding \$663,343 spending to date

Africa Let the Children Come to Jesus Project-to-Date Spending**

\$1,738,334 project-to-date funding \$301,063 spending to date

Asia Pacific Let the Children Come to Jesus Project-to-Date Spending**

\$927,334 project-to-date funding

Central America Let the Children Come to Jesus Project-to-Date Spending**

\$1,141,333 project-to-date funding

(20%) \$232,591 spending to date

Biblical Empowered Worldview Phase 2 Project-to-Date Spending

\$194,093 project-to-date funding \$99,365 spending to date 51%

International Bible Fund Project-to-Date Spending

\$2,721,092 project-to-date funding



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^{*}Composed of Let the Children Come to Jesus project spending.

^{**}Let the Children Come to Jesus projects experienced a low burn rate during the first six months of implementation in FY22, as we focused on conducting the initial baseline evaluations, training of trainers, and establishing partnerships—all to prepare for the second half of the fiscal year. We expect to implement more activities and directly reach more children and families through the rest of FY22, ensuring that the projects will be on track in spending.