



World Vision



CHILD
PROTECTION

WHERE MOST NEEDED FUND

» ANNUAL REPORT: October 2018 through September 2019

Prepared January 2020

CHILD PROTECTION

GLOBAL SUMMARY

Thank you for investing in the safety and well-being of children. Your generosity is helping to create opportunities in their lives for resilience, healing, and hope.

Each boy and girl deserves a childhood free from violence and exploitation, one in which they are nurtured and encouraged to become the unique person God has created them to be.

Yet many millions of children around the world are victims of circumstances and systems that rob them of their dignity, their rights, their futures, even their lives. Research demonstrates that traumatic experiences in childhood can lead to long-term negative outcomes in adulthood. By contrast, a safe and supportive environment can help children flourish, even amid difficult conditions.

Through child protection projects in Armenia, Bangladesh, Guatemala, Honduras, India, and Kenya, World Vision continues to empower families and communities to keep

children safe from all forms of violence and abuse. Working with governments, faith leaders, and other key stakeholders, we also are helping strengthen the systems that must be in place to protect children from harm.

In India, more than 1,500 men were added to Men Care groups that addressed gender-based inequality, sex trafficking, and new paradigms for father-daughter relationships. In Armenia, the government and Armenian Apostolic Church were influenced to adopt policies that discourage prenatal sex selection. In Kenya, activities including an Alternative Rites of Passage training led to a reduction in female genital mutilation, while in Bangladesh, 1,655 girls and boys participated in activities to prevent violence against children in their communities.

These and other efforts are making an enormous difference in the lives of vulnerable children. Thank you for your dedication to this work. We are grateful for your partnership, and eager to further report on how our shared labor has progressed in the last fiscal year.



In India, Men Care groups develop action plans for safeguarding children in their communities.

2,451,802 **PEOPLE, INCLUDING 1,071,933 CHILDREN,** have benefited from our child protection projects since they began. In FY19, 443,907 new people benefited. These numbers include beneficiaries from projects not featured in this report or that have already closed.

The following are significant achievements from this year:

1,422 schoolchildren and youth in Bangladesh benefited from 13 education and awareness sessions that focused on child labor and child protection.

517 families in Armenia participated in Celebrating Families activities, which trained parents to become more active nurturers of their children.

136 Christian faith leaders in India were trained in Channels of Hope for Child Protection and formed church action teams. More than 130 Muslim faith leaders participated in the Islamic version.

ARMENIA

In FY19, World Vision worked with Armenian churches, community leaders, and families to help create an environment in which boys and girls are valued equally, and to ensure children have equal rights and opportunities for successful futures.

Many youth-led events were organized to combat gender violence, gender stereotypes, and prenatal sex selection. Five such events included interactive theater performances and speeches by local officials that were featured on community TV stations, reaching nearly 20,000 people.

Over the life of this project, 299 social workers have been equipped to facilitate community dialogues, while 452 teachers have

incorporated lessons on gender equality and gender-based violence into their curriculums.

Through Care for Equality sessions, men, women, and youth grew in their knowledge of the consequences of gender-based violence, while discussing gender roles at home and in society. Participants applied what they learned in their own families, and a majority expressed a willingness to serve as community role models.

As the project draws to a close, we have seen significant progress in community attitudes related to gender, and in parents' commitment to helping each of their children grow and thrive. Thank you for your partnership in this important work.



Kindergarten students and their teachers prepare for a community sporting event that was organized to share gender equality messages and show parents the importance of growing up without gender stereotypes.

247,361 PEOPLE, INCLUDING 3,953 CHILDREN, have benefited from ministry activities since October 2015, including 71,170 people during fiscal year 2019.

1,152 girls and boys participated in activities to prevent violence against children in their communities.

Four-year target: 1,008

114%

1,240 parents and caregivers showed that they better understand positive parenting and nonviolent discipline.

Four-year target: 1,110

112%

14 faith leaders mobilized their communities to take action to protect children.

Four-year target: 11

127%

“After our son was born, I saw the effect of this project,” said Heghine (left). “My husband took care of him. He was fully engaged with all kinds of parenting works with our son—feeding, bathing, playing, and taking him outside. Thanks to World Vision, my husband is a completely different person.”



BANGLADESH

With your support, the Well-being of Life project is protecting children from the worst forms of child labor and providing families with the resources necessary to eliminate the need to send children to work.

In the past year, 7,943 people learned about the adverse effects of child labor on young children and adolescents, and 562 children were removed from dangerous labor conditions. Many of these children were enrolled in school or remedial education at one of our seven Child-Friendly Learning Resource Centers.

The project provided 150 parents training to help them establish or expand business ventures, while 230 families created a development plan aimed at helping their children thrive and achieve what God intends for them.

Of the families receiving support to improve their incomes, 98% have started their own businesses, according to a project survey taken at the end of FY19. Moreover, their average monthly income is \$92, exceeding the \$80 average for the areas in which we work. The survey also found that 100% of youth who received vocational training have started a business, averaging a monthly income of \$36—an encouraging start for many young people who dream of expanding their enterprises.

In FY19, the project focused on strengthening relationships with government agencies that make a positive impact on children's lives, such as the Social Welfare Department and the Department of Women's Affairs. We also partnered



Thanks to your support, Mossarrof, 12, was able to continue his education, and his mother received help to expand her grocery business to keep him out of the workforce.

with faith leaders, 60 of whom led community training sessions on the dangers of child labor and the importance of education.

Thank you for your commitment to children and their families in Bangladesh. Your partnership is making a difference.

47,184 PEOPLE, INCLUDING 17,602 CHILDREN, have benefited from ministry activities since October 2016, including 17,488 people during fiscal year 2019.

1,655 girls and boys participated in activities to prevent violence against children in their communities.



1,496 parents and caregivers showed they better understand positive parenting and nonviolent discipline.



140 faith leaders mobilized their communities to take action to protect children.



Annie (right) had to drop out of school when her mother was left bedridden by a stroke. She was working as domestic help when World Vision came alongside her and helped her enroll in a textile school, where she is acquiring the skills to be a dressmaker and run a business. Still in school, Annie and her brother have already opened a tailoring shop of their own.



GUATEMALA

The Community Roots Project* addresses the underlying causes of violence and irregular migration in 80 communities—some of Guatemala's most vulnerable areas. The project supports community-led violence prevention activities. It also engages public and private entities to offer services, education, and employment opportunities for youth who have the highest risk of participating in violence or irregular migration.

In FY19, the project engaged in a number of foundational and momentum-building activities. Following are some of the key accomplishments:

All 80 of the project's communities completed their official migration and violence prevention plans, and each established a local referral system to receive and manage reports of abuse.

Additionally, all 20 municipalities in the project's target region formed its own referral and support network. This regional network offered 40 training sessions for member communities, equipping them with a strategy for identifying, referring, and enrolling children in abuse-prevention services. As a result, 4,457 cases—2,057 male

and 2,400 female—were referred to the project's secondary services during FY19.

In an effort to slow irregular migration and prevent violence, 16 community centers were established to engage young people in music, art, theater, chess, dance, karate, and other enriching activities. Technical training areas also were set up to offer courses in sewing, cooking, beautician skills, and computer literacy.

A total of 1,159 people—75% female—participated in vocational training through community advocacy groups or municipal offices. The project also collaborated with the private sector, signing an agreement with the organization Grupo Hame to provide 300 young men and women vocational training through the Technical Training and Productivity Institute. Courses will prepare students to become electricians, cooks, hotel managers, welders, and plumbers.

Finally, 87 community leaders were trained on an approach to reducing crime and increasing public trust through the innovative use of public spaces, while 106 faith leaders were equipped to promote the rights of children and youth.



With the support of Community Roots, the National Civil Police (PNC) held a Child Director Contest to encourage civic participation and a sense of duty among children. Above, a girl from Barrio La Democracia, Tacana, is awarded the position of PNC Child Director for 2019-2020.

By actively engaging children, parents, local leaders, volunteers, and police, these communities are striving to become safer and more stable places to call home. Thank you for your support.

185,668 PEOPLE have participated in project activities since the project began in December 2016, including 46,085 people during fiscal year 2019.

Offering free-time activities—such as karate—for young people is one way Community Roots works to discourage violence and irregular migration. “At first . . . I had the idea that karate was only about combat,” says Mynor Ramirez, the father of a karate student. “But . . . with time, I realized that [my son] was learning values and discipline and that the course was extremely valuable to all participants.”



** This project is generously funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), with private partners contributing additional funds to support children, youth, and their communities.*

HONDURAS

Fergie, 8, is back in school, following an intervention by community members and local government officials.

Fredy, 19, practices with a professional soccer team, after participating in tournaments hosted by World Vision that drew notice from the team's coach.

Ashley, 14, abandoned a local gang, joined a church, and now teaches at the church's Sunday school.

These changes occurred during the second year of the Honduras Child Protection project, which is working with children, parents, churches, and local governments to create a safer environment for children.

Until recently, says Cesar, 18, a member of a peace club, "no organization ever told us how to live in

peace in our [community]. World Vision is doing it and is helping me a lot."

From October 2018 through September 2019, 680 children in 24 peace clubs learned how to better protect themselves, 793 parents learned how to raise their children with tenderness, and 452 church leaders learned how to teach the Parenting with Tenderness curriculum.

Community awareness and enforcement of children's rights increased through public assemblies, operation of six child protection committees, and strengthening of child protection systems in 12 communities.

The project's 40 current church partners are playing a critical role in training parents and supporting children



Reynaldo (right), a member of a children's protection board in San Pedro Sula, reviews the legal rights of children with his peers.

through their involvement in child protection committees.

To date, 2,180 children have directly benefited from project activities, and 4,925 children have indirectly benefited through training of parents. Your gifts are helping create brighter futures for these families.

9,398 PEOPLE, INCLUDING 2,180 CHILDREN AND YOUTH, have benefited from ministry activities since June 2017, including 5,750 people during fiscal year 2019.

242 girls and boys report taking action to prevent violence against children in their communities.



141 parents and caregivers show they better understand positive parenting and nonviolent discipline.



40 churches are taking action to protect children.



The Honduras Child Protection project works to strengthen children's participation in peacebuilding and violence prevention. "I feel proud to know that our words will be heard," says Lourdes, 16, a member of the Children's Municipal Council in Santa Rita. "[W]ith the help of World Vision . . . I want to be someone who is able to defend what I believe in, and I will continue to fight for it."



INDIA

The India Child Protection project continues to make significant advancements toward protecting children from sexual exploitation and helping the survivors of trafficking rebuild their lives. In red-light districts, where children are especially at risk, 10 Child-Friendly Learning and Recreation Centers (CFLRCs) provided 473 girls and boys a safe place to play and learn under the close watch of caring staff. In FY19, each CFLRC child took part in personal safety training, while group counseling sessions (pictured) were provided to adolescent girls, given their unique vulnerability in red-light areas.

The project added 4,806 girls through 159 Girl Power groups, and 1,515 men through 57 Men Care groups, to actively combat gender-based violence. Child Protection Committees also were established in 126 target villages to broaden the network of people committed to preventing trafficking.

With the help of other stakeholders—such as teachers, faith leaders, and police—these groups have been able to better monitor at-risk children and take swift action to secure their safety. As a result, in FY19, the project accomplished several key interventions:

- Five missing children recovered
- 55 child marriages stopped
- 12 criminal complaints filed to ensure child victims receive justice
- 49 girls protected from imminent threats of trafficking and re-enrolled in school

In aftercare homes, 594 survivors of trafficking and other forms of abuse benefited from activities promoting psychosocial health, including self-defense training, art therapy, dance therapy, and sports. Thirty-four girls took part in counseling sessions to help them talk about trauma without feelings of shame or self-recrimination. The girls also learned breathing techniques

for managing anxiety and were encouraged to make a list of trusted people to whom they could turn in emergencies. These experiences gave survivors important tools for reintegrating into their communities, reframing the past, and developing hope for the future.

We remain grateful for your commitment to India, and to India's children. Your support is truly making a difference.



CFLRCs provide group counseling to adolescent girls raised in West Bengal's red-light districts.

145,748 PEOPLE, INCLUDING 89,828 CHILDREN, have benefited from ministry activities since October 2017, including 104,037 people during fiscal year 2019.



In certain areas, the frequency of human trafficking can erode community trust in law enforcement, resulting in incidents of trafficking and other types of violence going unreported.

World Vision organized seven face-to-face meetings between Girl Power groups and law enforcement officials in four police stations in FY19. During these gatherings, 658 adolescent girls were trained on their rights as complainants, and given a chance to voice concerns about their safety. In turn, police officers expressed a willingness to take decisive action against gender-based violence.

KENYA

In the final year of the Kenya Child Protection project, a community survey found incidents of physical and verbal violence had decreased at least 32% in the previous 12 months (as reported by children), while 7% fewer children had dropped out of school.

There were notably fewer reported cases of female genital mutilation (FGM) and child labor. Additionally, the project saw a 34% increase in adolescents who indicated the highest level of satisfaction with life.

Stakeholders—including agencies for children, courts, police, health, and education—held three forums during the past year and resolved to prioritize child protection cases, resulting in more effective reporting of violations.

An estimated 5,000 children and 2,000 adults attended the Children's Assembly forum on child protection issues. Meanwhile, a partnership with county and central governments was strengthened through the completion of a child protection unit, with officers in charge of gender and children's issues.

A mass media campaign that included child-friendly presentations as well as talk show discussions on 10 radio stations in West Pokot reached around 75,000 adults and 115,000 children with messages about FGM and other child protection concerns.

Also, 47% of girls who went through an FY18 Alternative Rites of Passage training—which provides a cultural transition to adulthood without the harm of FGM—went on to secondary school.

Thank you for your support in helping vulnerable children in Kenya. Your partnership has truly helped change lives and bring hope.



During FY19, scholarship support was provided to 277 children (75% girls) from households in need. With fewer concerns about school fees, most students showed strong academic performance, and dropouts decreased.

1,085,748 PEOPLE, INCLUDING 593,290 CHILDREN, have benefited from ministry activities since October 2015, including 199,377 people during fiscal year 2019.

3,704 girls and boys report taking action to prevent violence against children in their communities.



14,334 parents/caregivers are committed to reporting abuse against children.



293 faith communities are mobilized and taking action to protect children.



Birth registration verifies children's ages, safeguarding their legal identity and helping protect them from being exploited through child labor. In FY19, support of mobile birth registrations increased, with six registration clinics held. "[P]arents have seen the importance of securing a birth certificate for the children," said a county registration officer, "and this has made our work at early childhood education planning very easy."



A FATHER, A TEACHER, AN ADVOCATE FOR ALL GIRLS

Teacher Kashem Shaikh supports his girl students and their right to an education, while also educating the community and local businesses about child rights.

After 14 years of marriage, Kashem and his wife welcomed twin girls into their family. A devoted father, he has a passion for seeing all girls in Bangladesh thrive and grow into successful, independent adults. He uses his job teaching social science and accounting at Noihati Girls High School as a platform to mentor and encourage his students. He also provides tutoring to girls who live in the slums and might otherwise not get an education.

"I discovered him as a thought leader and powerful speaker," said Abeda, a World Vision staffer who met Kashem while presenting awareness sessions on child rights at the high school. Kashem joined a Citizen Voice and Action (CVA) group and expanded his role as an influencer in his community. CVA is an advocacy model that empowers citizens to hold government accountable to fulfilling its obligations in areas of education, healthcare, and other services.

Kashem has partnered with parents and World Vision staff members to remove children from dangerous labor and return them to school. One girl who has benefited from his effort and drive is Sarmin.

“What we do is considered a sacred task. We want to leave a legacy of helping each other for the next generation.”

—Kashem Shaikh,
high school teacher
and father of twin girls

her with the uniform, fees, and supplies needed to keep her there. The project provided her family with \$12 a month to help make up for the income lost when Sarmin returned to school. The project also helped her mother with a grocery business to better provide for the family.

Sarmin has become another warrior in the battle against child labor. When she isn't reading, writing, and playing with friends,

The 16-year-old had dropped out of school and was working alongside her mother in miserable conditions in a shrimp factory. For two years she shivered in the cold room of the factory, deveining shrimp to help feed her family of eight.

Kashem helped Sarmin return to school and World Vision provided



Kashem stresses the importance of education with Sarmin and her mother.

she is helping to educate her classmates on the dangers of child labor. She tells about her experiences in the factory and cautions against choosing a meager income now over the life-long benefits of a good education.

World Vision staff members sing Kashem's praises, saying he provides charismatic local leadership and helps them spread motivational messages through debate competitions for girls, street dramas for residents of slums, and awareness sessions for parents. In the classroom, he teaches girls about protecting themselves and saying "no" to marriage proposals before they turn 18.

Kashem also speaks to businesses such as the shrimp factory, urging them to stop employing and abusing children. He and the local CVA group insisted the owners hang signs at the factory gates citing laws prohibiting child labor and the punishment mandated for violators.

Kashem and Sarmin's outreach efforts are paying dividends, with young people learning more about their rights and other key issues. "Many girls are performing better in answering questions on child labor and [child] marriage when they participate in World Vision's quiz competition," said Abeda.

Kashem also counsels parents, augmenting the positive parenting classes offered by World Vision, and staff members say more parents are changing their attitudes toward child labor, child marriage, and protecting their children from harm.



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.

worldvisionphilanthropy.org

INT20ELOREP-CP_FY19 Annual WMN_02.14.20

© 2020 World Vision, Inc.

