

World Vision



Children in Uganda who participate in World Vision's Area programmes

WORLD VISION IRELAND OUR 2023 IMPACT SUMMARY



WHO WE ARE

We are dedicated to working with children, families, and communities to overcome poverty and experience fulness of life. Together, we create a brighter future - one where every child thrives.

World Vision Ireland has been actively engaged in Ireland and as part of the World Vision Partnership since 1983. With generous support from both the Irish government and private donations, as well as major institutions including the European Union and UN agencies, we have been able to support girls, boys, and their families, enabling them to thrive.

We deliver multi-sector programmes that are informed by the needs and priorities of local communities ensuring that communities are equipped and empowered long after we have left. As the world faces increasing complex challenges, we deepen our commitment to the most vulnerable girls and boys. Our focus extends beyond immediate relief to building community resilience against climate change, hunger, conflict and displacement.



Katunga is the director of the catch-up school in the Vuhovi health zone of DRC

WITH SUPPORT FROM WORLD VISION IN 2023, EVERY HOUR...

41 children received education.

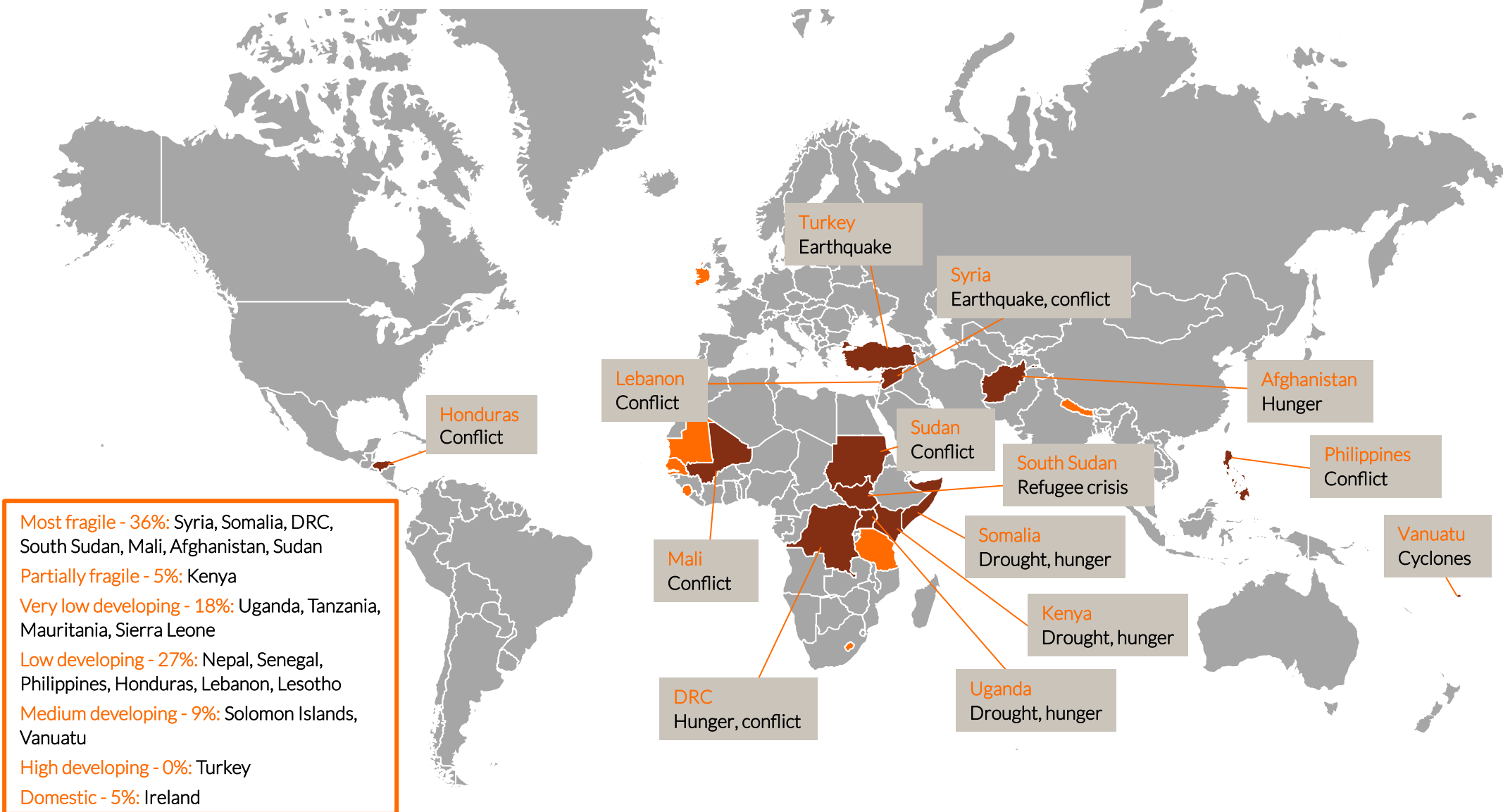
28 children under 5 years old were supported to prevent malnutrition

22 people were better equipped to deal with Disaster Risk and Climate Change

6 people received access to clean water



YOUR SUPPORT IN A MAP¹



¹ In maroon, programmes responding to emergencies.

OUR IMPACT IN NUMBERS

We impacted lives of over **760,000** people, of which:



- about **50%** were children: over **173,000** girls and over **171,000** boys
- about **5%** (**42,195**) were persons with disabilities: **2,326** women, **2,168** men and **37,701** children



Overall, we supported **39** projects across **22** countries.



We responded to emergencies in **13** countries, reaching **361,756** people including **199,537** children



Recipients of seedlings from World Vision Ireland's emergency response in Urban Port Vila, Vanuatu to help their recovery following tropical cyclones Judy and Kevin in March 2023

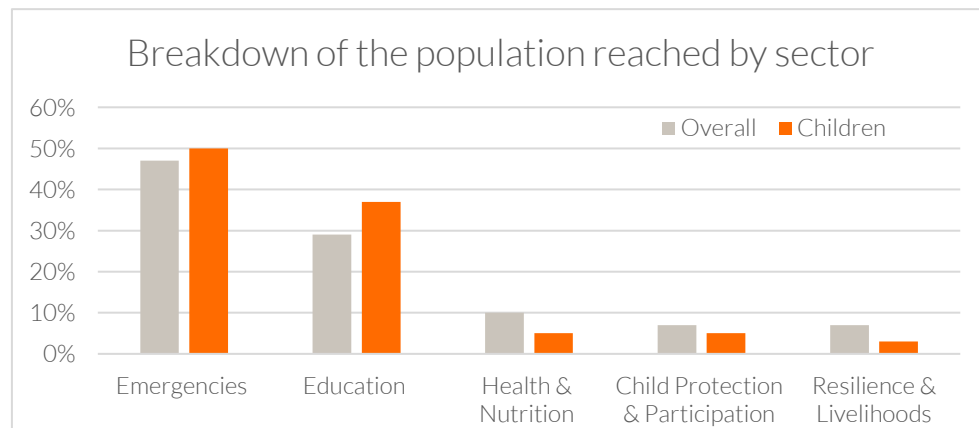




OUR FOCUS IN 2023

In 2023, World Vision Ireland reached significant milestones in its efforts to support vulnerable communities worldwide. Working across 22 countries, including regions affected by humanitarian crises, our programmes impacted over 760,000 people, including more than 370,000 vulnerable children. Nearly half of the people we reached (47%) were in emergencies including 171,000 children in 13 countries.

Despite the global challenges posed by climate change, conflicts, and escalating hunger and malnutrition, we remained committed to child well-being. Our initiatives focused on addressing the most pressing needs in health, nutrition, education, resilience and livelihoods, as well as child protection and participation. The ongoing conflicts in Sudan, Ukraine, Gaza and other regions had far-reaching consequences impacting children worldwide. Nevertheless, we continued to advocate for change at local, regional, and global levels, adapting our programming to meet evolving needs. Amid rising demands for aid across all operational areas, our long-term development efforts persisted, supported by insights gained from our experiences and the communities we serve.



This report is a summary of our endeavours throughout the year, highlighting both our development programmes and emergency responses. It includes case studies to exemplify our approach and showcase the impact of our work on the ground.



Shania, a SAUTI youth from Tanzania at COP27 in Egypt

Education



222,935



42,719



48,236



127,619

1 in 4 out of school children, live in crisis affected countries. Over 263 million children and adolescents across the world are denied a right to education because of barriers caused by poverty, discrimination, conflicts, emergencies and climate change among others².

World Vision Ireland's education programmes continue to prioritize improved and equitable learning outcomes for the world's most disadvantaged children. We collaborate with partners to provide learning opportunities that will change their lives and build the knowledge and skills they need to thrive.

"My wish is to finish my studies and become a doctor, because my niece died tragically due to a lack of medical care. I would like to thank World Vision for building WASH facilities in my school to give us a conducive environment to study" Sarah, pupil at one of EMPOWER project schools in DRC

Our education programmes use a comprehensive approach to ensure the best outcomes for children. We implement World Vision's models, such as 'Learning Roots' to enhance early childhood education and development and 'Unlock Literacy' to improve reading skills. We also provide alternative education through our 'Accelerated Learning Approaches' (ALP) and promote inclusive and safe learning through the 'Whole School Approach' and 'Community-Based Education'.

"Without education, no parent will have anything to give their child for their future. Education remains the only and special gift that a good parent should give to their son or daughter." A respondent during an FGD for EMPOWER³ project in DRC

In 2023, World Vision Ireland implemented several initiatives to promote access to quality education. These initiatives included:

- improving school infrastructures through the construction or renovation of classrooms and WASH facilities, as well as the provision of furniture and scholastic materials;
- training teachers in creative writing initiatives such as 'Fighting Words' to enhance the quality of education provided;
- enabling parents and caregivers to enrol children in school at different levels including primary, secondary, and accelerated learning programmes.
- promoting Early Childhood Development (ECD) and creating safe spaces to ensure better learning environments and respond to education needs in emergencies.



Pupils after receiving desks for their classrooms in Uganda

² UNICEF.ie

³ Enabling Meaningful Participation of Women and girls for Essential Rights



The **EMPOWER Programme**, implemented in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Somalia and South Sudan, achieved significant milestones in its first year.

- In **Somalia**, the percentage of girls and vulnerable children reported feeling supported by parents or caregivers to attend school increased from 29% at baseline to **65%** at the end of year 1. Almost all students (**99%**) reported feeling safe and protected in school, a substantial increase compared to 84% at baseline.
- In the **DRC**, **69%** of target schools meet INEE⁴ criteria for gender sensitivity, conflict awareness, safety, and inclusiveness.
- In **South Sudan**, despite the difficult conditions, the percentage of girls aged between 6 & 18 years old and enrolled in school increased from 45% at baseline to **60%** at end of 2023.



Veronica's enthusiasm to study boosted by the scholastic materials she received from World Vision inspired her mother to support her dream to go to school

Our Area Programmes (APs) in **Uganda** registered positive results between 2022 and 2023:

- Improved literacy levels with increase in grade 3 children achieving minimum reading levels in Busitema from 26% in 2022 to **68%** in 2023 and in Lunyo from 21% to **45%** in the same period.
- About **10% point increase** in children passing Primary Leaving Examination (PLE): from 74% and 85% in 2022 to **85%** and **95%** in 2023 in Busitema and in Lunyo respectively
- In Lunyo, the primary school attendance increased from 85% to **95%** and the percentage of children dropping out of primary school reduced from 8% in 2022 to 2% in 2023.

Here are some of **2023 significant achievements** from our education programmes:

- Over **54,000** children benefited from our sponsorship programmes
- Supported enrolment of over **1,300** children (3-6 years) in Early Childhood Education, **25,904** in primary education and **237** in secondary education
- **5,609** children accessed reading materials at school and home
- **1,493** women trained in Income Generating Activities (IGA) trainings include financial literacy and **1,173** people trained in vocational education, business enterprise ventures and coaching
- **1405** Accelerated learning Programmes (ALP)
- **364** teachers trained in different teaching methodologies including unlock literacy, creative writing and whole school approaches
- **257** functional Child Friendly Spaces (CFS)
- **123** schools were supported with furniture and scholastic materials and **106** WASH facilities including VIP latrines and hand washing facilities were built in schools

⁴ Inter-agency Network for Education in Emergencies



Resilience & Livelihoods



55,484



18,613



24,881



11,990

According to the World Food Programme (WFP) Global Report 2023, over a quarter of a billion people are now facing acute hunger and require urgent food assistance⁵. The surge is primarily attributed to recurring shocks stemming from conflict, economic hardships and climate-related events such as prolonged droughts, floods and severe storms leading to a global food crisis.

World Vision Ireland is actively implementing livelihood programmes to ensure vulnerable households maintain a means to access food and have sustainable livelihoods. Our programmes aim to enhance agricultural and livestock yields, improve household incomes, and broaden access to financial services, while prioritizing building resilience. This ensures communities are better prepared to face and recover from shocks and improve the well-being of households and children.

Our approaches focus on empowering households, particularly women, to establish profitable and sustainable livelihoods. We achieve this through initiatives such as climate smart agriculture, cash for work, infrastructure development, creating market opportunities, implementing Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) measures, enhancing financial literacy and business skills through our **'Savings for Transformation'** (S4T) approach and Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs). We aim to not only uplift communities economically but also to protect them against future adversity.

"I missed attending school because my parents did not have enough money to pay school fees. I am now very happy because World Vision trained my parents in savings for transformation. Me and my siblings are back in school as our parents can now support us" Miria, a pupil in Uganda

"Me and my sister could not get enough food and educational materials before due to low income for my parents. But now as my mother has started tailoring, she is able to provide us good food and educational materials from her income." Gunja (pictured below), 9 year old in WV Nepal Area Programme



Gunja (left), with mother and sister, in Nepal showcasing the family income-generating livelihood activity

⁵ [GRFC2023-brief-EN.pdf \(fsinplatform.org\)](https://www.fsplatform.org/grfc2023-brief-en.pdf)



The **NOURISH**⁶ programme implemented in Mauritania, Tanzania, Uganda, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu is a five-year programme supported by the government of Ireland. NOURISH in its first year has closely collaborated with local partners to identify nutrition-sensitive and climate-smart production approaches. The programme promotes the production of local, nutritious, climate-resilient crops that are nutrient-dense, drought-resistant, quick-maturing, and high-yielding. NOURISH supported target communities to establish community gardens, including market gardens, demonstration backyards and kitchen gardens. We provided on-site trainings focused on good agronomic practices, improved agriculture and organized farming systems. These initiatives provided households with practical experience to implement in their own gardens.



Women of Aly Baidy Cooperative supported by NOURISH display their produce in Mauritania

In **Tanzania**, NOURISH's initiative based on Local Value Chain Analyses has successfully connected farmers with input suppliers for cost-effective resources and innovative farming techniques, while also aiding them in finding markets for their products.

In its first year of implementation, here are some of the 2023 recorded milestones:

- The adoption of climate-smart, nutrition-sensitive approaches increased in **Uganda** from 71% to **77%** and in **Vanuatu** from 71% to **81%**.
- More households reported having an additional source of income in **Solomon Islands** from 59% to **67%**, **Tanzania** from 29% to **67%** and **Uganda** from 40% to **50%**
- In **Uganda**, **62%** of households reported that local government institutions taking action on disaster risk reduction and climate change (48% at baseline).
- In **Vanuatu**, Frehiwot's Inclusive Savings for Transformation (IS4T) group empowered women through a secure and structured savings system. Some members of the group accumulated nearly 80,000VT (approximately €620), a substantial amount in a country where employment opportunities are limited. This exceeds the minimum wage for a 40-hour working week in Vanuatu by 53%.



IS4T members in Freshwota calculate savings to date and share out member savings in Vanuatu

⁶ Nature based Opportunities Underpinning Resilient and Sustainable Households (NOURISH)



In 2023, our livelihood initiatives, particularly in our longstanding Area Programmes in Uganda, Tanzania and Nepal, saw some significant achievements according to a mid-term review conducted in 2023:

- In **Uganda**, particularly in Busitema, households facing moderate to severe food insecurity⁷ reduced from 60% in 2022 to **33%** in 2023
- In **Uganda**, targeted parents and caregivers have increased access to a means to save money in 2023
 - through the S4T initiatives in Busitema, **all parents** compared to 51% in 2022
 - through Saving Group linkage Loans (SGL) introduced by Vision Fund after financial training in Lunyo; **63%** of parents or caregivers in 2023 report access to sufficient credit compared to 36% in 2022. As a result, in Lunyo, households also report increased income (**45%** compared to 27% at baseline)
- In **Nepal**, there was an increase in target households with access to financial institutions, of whom the majority are female headed households (355 of 369), from 21% in 2022 to **100%** in 2023.

Here are some of **2023 significant achievements** from our resilience and livelihoods programmes:

- Over **78,942** trees were planted
- **5,214** farmers trained in sustainable and natural resource management.
- Over **5,025** Savings for Transformation members in **478** S4T groups
- **3,493** people trained in financial literacy and **1,553** women trained in IGAs
- Over **2,960** people received improved seeds and 185 people benefited from household's gardens
- **1,173** people trained and coached in different vocations and business enterprises
- **192** people trained as CVAs
- **18** disaster preparedness plans updated in Uganda, Tanzania and Mauritania

⁷ Using the Household Food Insecurity Access Scale (HFIAS)



*Above: A SAUTI youth in Tanzania harvesting vegetables from the Fishers group farm
Below: SAUTI youth group members posing for a photo during a tree planting exercise in Tanzania.*





Health and Nutrition



79,078



22,031



34,376



16,385

Globally in 2022, an estimated 22% of children under 5 were stunted, 7% were wasted and 6% were overweight.⁸ Sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia accounted for 253,000 maternal deaths in 2020, representing 87% of global maternal mortality⁹.

Health and Nutrition are vital aspects of World Vision Ireland’s programmes. We use family and community-centred approaches, such as ‘Nurturing Care Groups’ (NCG) and ‘Community Health Committees’, to drive behaviour change, strengthen community health systems and advocate for breaking the cycle of vulnerability.

Our interventions focus on enhancing dietary diversity, strengthening local health systems, improving health, nutrition, hygiene, and sanitation practices among our target communities. Our holistic approach not only addresses immediate nutritional needs but also empowers families to sustainably produce their own food. We achieve this by training community health workers (CHWs) who directly support and educate caregivers and mothers of infants, addressing the root causes of malnutrition.

We collaborate with local governments to rehabilitate and construct water and sanitation facilities in schools, health centres and communities ensuring access to clean water and proper sanitation for all. World Vision Ireland recognizes the significance of tackling gender inequality in nutrition by advocating for equitable and non-violent family dynamics, actively involving both men and women in household nutrition initiatives.

“I am very happy that my village has now clean water. During my free time after school, I often come to this vegetable garden with my sisters to help my father to water the crops because I like delicious tomatoes” Ahmed, a child in Mauritania (pictured below)



Ahmed and his sisters watering their vegetable garden after the installation of a solar powered water project in his village in Mauritania by World Vision Ireland thanks to Bank of Ireland.

⁸ UNICEF-WHO-The World Bank: Joint Child Malnutrition Estimates (JME) – Levels and Trends – 2023 edition - UNICEF DATA

⁹ [Maternal mortality \(who.int\)](https://www.who.int/)

World Vision Ireland's NOURISH programme, in collaboration with local governments and community-based organizations, aims at advocating for the consumption of nutritious and safe diets among vulnerable children and their families. This dedication is evidenced through the various strategies we implement:

- In the **Solomon Islands** and **Vanuatu**, we distributed cookbooks featuring local recipes, emphasizing food groups and balanced meals.
- In **Mauritania**, trained health workers offered counselling to pregnant women and mothers
- In **Uganda** and **Tanzania**, lead mothers underwent training to establish care groups, promoting nutrition knowledge. This resulted in about two thirds of children 0-5 months exclusively breastfed in both countries (an increase compared to the baseline results of respectively 42% and 29%)

Some progress was observed across four of five NOURISH project countries in terms of access to quality and diverse food reported by caregivers (**15%** compared to 11% at baseline). **Uganda's Karamoja Region** access to quality and diverse food at home increased from a concerning 1% at baseline to **4%** - further improvements are urgently required.

In **South Sudan**, with support from UNHCR, we provided comprehensive Primary Health Care services (PHCs) to over 6,295 individuals at the Makpandu refugee camp. These services included screening for COVID, Ebola, HIV, and Tuberculosis, administering vaccinations, offering routine antenatal care for women, conducting nutrition screening for children under 5 and renovating and constructing WASH facilities. In **Senegal**, thanks to funding from UNICEF, we reached over 48,000 individuals, including 442 infants and 45 people with chronic conditions, providing COVID vaccinations.

In 2023, our health and nutrition initiatives, particularly in our longstanding APs in Tanzania and Nepal, saw some significant achievements in 2023¹⁰:

- In **Tanzania**, in collaboration with government, communities and the church, the implementation of Zamahero water project resulted in;
 - A 20% point percentage increase in the proportion of people accessing clean drinking water (**62%** in 2023) and a 10% point percentage increase in the use of sanitation facilities (**28%**).
 - Over three quarters of children receive Vitamin A supplements (**76%**, compared to 47% in 2015) and caregivers report use of bed nets for children under five (**77%**).
 - **91%** of women now give birth at health facilities.
- In **Nepal**, the Health Mothers Groups have led to:
 - A significant boost to antenatal care visits (**63%** in 2023 from 36% in 2022) and **77%** of women take iron/folate during pregnancy.
 - Among 1,302 underweight children participating in our PD/Hearth sessions to address malnutrition, over half achieved significant weight gain (>400g) within just 30 days (**55%**), as well as substantial weight gain (>900g) within 90 days (**59%**).
 - **67%** of children in the target community are exclusively breastfed
 - Dietary diversity increased in households (41% to **54%** in a year)

Here are some of our **achievements** in health & nutrition in 2023:

- **7,373** people vaccinated for COVID 19 and EPIs
- Over **4,800** girls aged 9 to 14 received HPV vaccinations in **Senegal**
- **2,109** caregivers and mothers trained in nutrition counselling
- **458** Households reached with water extension project
- Over **100** Nurturing Care Groups formed
- **100** girls were supported with dignity kits
- **95** births supported at health facilities

¹⁰ WV Mid Term Review 2023



Child Protection & Participation

Annually, over one billion children are subjected to various forms of violence, costing the global economy an estimated US\$7 trillion! This is far more than the cost of preventing violence¹¹. Daily, children encounter challenges such as child marriage, child labour, corporal punishment. The most vulnerable children including children in conflict areas and children with disabilities face a higher likelihood of neglect, physical, emotional and sexual abuse. Crisis situations and conflicts intensify existing child protection issues or give rise to new ones.

At World Vision Ireland, our primary objective is to improve children's well-being. We achieve this through a comprehensive approach that focuses on preventing violence against children, responding to incidents when they occur and supporting affected children.

Our strategies encompass various approaches aimed at community empowerment and engagement. The 'Citizen Voice and Action' (CVA) model ensures accountability from service providers, while our community engagement approach engages faith leaders, local authorities, parents and teachers in project implementation to foster community involvement. We implement empowerment models such as 'Empowering Children as Peacebuilders' (ECaP), 'Celebrating Families' and 'Men-Care' to encourage positive norms and behaviours through dialogue.

We promote education and training initiatives to raise awareness about child protection issues and support services such as creating child-



49,421



11,886



17,675



18,092

friendly spaces (CFS) and offering parenting support to empower families to proactively safeguard their communities. Initiatives like child parliaments, school clubs and youth clubs promote child participation and empowerment, while our economic empowerment initiatives strengthen family structures and contribute to community resilience.

"Thanks to the MENCARE Sessions organised by World Vision, I have seen a big change in my husband's attitude. He recently took time to gather us as a family and talk to us (me and the children) about how to start participating in everything that is done in the household as a family which he never did before." Kyakimwa, wife of a 'Men Care' facilitator in EMPOWER project DRC



Children at one of ECaP curriculum trainings in a school in the Philippines

¹¹[Violence against children | Child Protection | World Vision International \(wvi.org\)](https://www.wvi.org)



Our EMPOWER program, in its first year of implementation registered significant achievements:

- In **Syria**, women who reported heightened confidence and a sense of agency to advocate for themselves and advance their interests increased from 33% at baseline to **71%** at the end of 2023.
- In **South Sudan, Syria, Somalia** and **Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)**, **49%** of households trained in income-generating activities (IGA) and financial literacy reported having an additional source of income (compared to 35.1% at baseline).

For our European Union funded projects, 2023 brought the following actions:

- Citizen Voice and Action (CVA) teams in our CVAVAC¹² project in **Lesotho**, have been monitoring standards related to child friendliness in 17 police stations (Department of Child and Gender, Protection Unit – CGPU) across the country and one magistrate children’s court in Mafeteng district and as a result, generated evidence-based information to assess the progress on government commitment versus the reality in the service delivery.
- In its first year of implementation, the PEACE¹³ Mindanao project team in the **Philippines** conducted a baseline study as well as stakeholder and gender analysis to determine avenues for greater youth engagement in the peacebuilding process in the area.
- In **Tanzania**, the SAUTI¹⁴ Youth project (see case-study below) supported Shania (pictured p.4), a 15 year old secondary school student, to represent and advocate on behalf of children and youth during COP27, held in Egypt in November 2022.

¹² Citizen’s Voice Addressing Violence Against Children

¹³ Promoting Efforts Addressing Conflict through Education in Mindanao



Children in Lesotho after an awareness campaign.



Youth celebrating and showcasing their work in Mindanao week of peace in the Philippines.

¹⁴ Sustainable Actions Uniting Tanzanian and Irish Youth

Youth advocacy at COP27 from SAUTI Youth

“My community is feeling the impacts of climate change. We all know this is not fair. How much more damage has to be done before global leaders take serious action?” Shania asked a panel of leaders on Youth and Future Generations Day at COP27.

Shania advocated on climate change in the Children and Youth Pavilion and took part in a panel discussion **“Children and adolescent led action for climate change”**. Following her meeting with Minister Brophy at COP27, Shania was invited to present to the Joint Foreign Affairs Committee of the Oireachtas, Ireland’s national parliament. In doing so, Shania was the first child under the age of 18 to ever present to the committee.

In 2023, our child protection and participation initiatives, particularly in our longstanding APs in Uganda and Tanzania, saw some significant achievements in 2023¹⁵:

- **In Tanzania:**
 - **13** junior councils and MTAKUWA were formed, reaching a total of **153** individuals
 - Community reporting abuse cases to authorities increased significantly from 40% in 2004 to **80%** in 2023.
- **In Uganda:**
 - Children active participation in household decision increased significantly from 40% to **97%** in Lunyo and from 41% to **98%** in Busitema
 - Adolescents experiencing sexual violence reduced from 52% to **42%** in Lunyo and from 59% to **52%** in Busitema

- Reports of Violence Against Children (VAC) by parents have decreased by **70%** and **121** reported cases have been followed up.
- A sub-county **children’s parliament** empowering **30** children to engage in decision-making processes was established, marking a milestone in our commitment to fostering a participatory environment for the youth.
- Collaboration with local governments has resulted in the drafting and approval of bye-laws aimed at ending child labour and teenage pregnancy.

Here are some of the **achievements** from our child protection and participation programmes;

- Over **3,538** children were provided with Child Protection services
- Over **646** men and boys trained in the ‘Men Care Approach’
- **121** child abuse cases reported to police were followed up in **Uganda**, and as a result three individuals were brought to justice
- **15** school peace clubs and **19** community peace clubs for children/youth formed in Marawi and Cotabato cities in the **Philippines**

¹⁵ WV Mid Term Review 2023



SAUTI Youth Project- Empowering young voices in Tanzania and Ireland (2000-2023) – A case study

SAUTI Youth project, implemented in Tanzania (Handeni and Korogwe districts) and Ireland (Galway City and County), empowered youth to be strong voices in their communities and monitor government commitments on climate action. At the end of its four years, the project has seen significant achievements in Tanzania where **over 77 youth** were elected in village management committees and **five climate policies** in Handeni and Korogwe districts were approved and implemented. Additionally, the project prompted revisions to the process of granting tree-harvesting permits, ensuring better environmental conservation practices.

Over **22,000 individuals** were trained through the CVA model on climate change and environmental protection. The youth were engaged in forest protection and tree planting initiatives, planting more than **30,000 trees**, establishing tree nurseries, forming Saving for Transformation (S4Ts) groups as well as creation of several income generating activities.

In Ireland, the **Galway Youth Climate Assemblies** provided a platform for young people in Galway City and County to actively engage in climate action. These youth-led conferences allowed secondary school students and youth organizations to discuss climate-related issues and inform local government policies.

“Climate action was a highly effective entry point for engaging youth in local governance. The Citizen Voice and Action (CVA) approach generated immediate impact at systems, community and individual levels: it secured an infusion of financial resources and human capital, empowered communities and equipped youth with improved knowledge about climate action and with the skills to advocate for change” from SAUTI end of project evaluation



*Above: SAUTI youth in Ireland brainstorming during a training session
Below: SAUTI youth from both countries leading a session during the CVA conference in Tanzania*





“Thanks to SAUTI Youth project I have changed from killing my community by cutting trees and causing drought, now I’m transformed and I’m an ambassador of educating my communities on the effect of deforestation on climate change”
Says Halid, pictured above.

Halid’s story is one of many. Halid is 34, a father of three and a husband. Before joining SAUTI in 2019, Halid’s main livelihood was agriculture but due to extreme weather conditions including torrential rains and prolonged droughts in his village (Mnganza Village), his maize crop failed just like millions of other farmers in his area who depended on maize production for both food security and economic well-being. Halid went from a surplus producer to a food insecure household.

In 2019, Halid joined our SAUTI project, funded by the European Commission, aimed to engage young people in the governance processes, particularly related to climate adaptation and mitigation policies as one of the CVAs. He received training in integrated interventions including CVA, savings for transformation and natural resource management among others. The trainings opened Halid’s eyes to the reality of how he and his community were contributing to the extreme weather conditions through poor farming methods and deforestation. Halid has now transformed from charcoal making activities which is destructive to the environment and started to practice climate smart agriculture to protect the environment.

Halid has since mobilized other youth and formed ‘Fishers’ farming group that engages in horticulture production. Through SAUTI project the group was supported with improved hybrid seeds including onion, watermelon and papaya. In their first harvest the group earned approximately \$2,500. Halid is able is now able to provide for his family both financially and feed them nutritious food as well take care of the environment. Thanks to the CVA training, Halid now among the 8 representatives of village environmental committee members in his community with main responsibility of educating the communities on management of village natural resources including water sources, forest and wetlands.



Responding to Emergencies



361,756



57,967



69,442



199,537

Almost 1 child in every 5 around the world is living in or fleeing from conflict zones!¹⁶ In 2023, the world faced numerous humanitarian crises that spread across continents. From on-going conflicts in Sudan, Ukraine and Gaza to the escalating climate crisis marked by tropical cyclones, storms and wildfires. The overlapping dynamics of conflict, climate change and economic instability led to significant humanitarian needs, causing acute food insecurity, loss of lives and mass displacement. Unfortunately, children bore the brunt of these crises. 2023 witnessed a convergency of crises, each demanding urgent humanitarian response.

In **Sudan**, mass displacement due to conflict overwhelmed local communities, while in **Vanuatu**, two consecutive cyclones caused significant damage and disruption, impacting homes, infrastructure and food crops, with more than 3,000 people remaining in evacuation centres. Natural disasters including earthquakes in the **Turkey-Syria** region, added to the strain. Amidst this turmoil, World Vision Ireland played a pivotal role in addressing the fundamental rights of affected populations. Our commitment to timely aid delivery was crucial in mitigating some of the impacts of these crises.

The World Vision Partnership’s humanitarian efforts in 2023 were commendable, reaching over 30 million people affected by emergencies, majority of them being children. In response to disease outbreaks, including the Covid-19 pandemic, we provide personal protective equipment (PPE), conducted awareness campaigns, and facilitated handwashing facilities and vaccinations.



Farmers with their fruit seed planters received after training in Vanuatu

¹⁶ [Global Humanitarian Overview 2024 \[EN/AR/FR/ES\]](https://www.unocha.org/en/global-humanitarian-overview-2024) | OCHA (unocha.org)



For climate-related emergencies such as droughts, floods and cyclones, World Vision Ireland distributed seeds to promote food production, facilitated emergency cash transfers and offered psychological support. Our commitment extended to renovating schools, ensuring water facilities and enhancing sanitation.

Through funding from Irish Aid, World Vision Ireland responded to the **Turkey Syria** Earthquake reaching over 3,600 people with protection and cash interventions. In **Vanuatu**, where 80% of the population faced the aftermath of back-to-back cyclones, we combined humanitarian response with resilience building programmes. Additionally, 10,046 people benefited from livelihood support and protection activities through seed distribution. In **South Sudan**, we delivered emergency health services to over 17,561 returnees and 3,654 people in **Northwest Syria** were provided with protection and cash interventions.

In 2023, World Vision Ireland contributed to the World Vision partnership's Childhood Rescue (CHR) initiative of over US\$4 million which directly supported existing spotlight projects in **Afghanistan**, the **Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)** and **Honduras**. Additionally, this funding facilitated the launch of startup projects in **Mali**, **Somalia** and **Lebanon**. These initiatives aimed to improve the lives of vulnerable communities by addressing critical needs such as health, education and livelihood.

Here is an overview of our achievements responding to emergencies in 2023:

- **68,891** people accessed health facilities in **Afghanistan** and over **63,612** people participated in our primary health care (PHC) services in **Somalia**
- **54,628** people reached with food distribution in **Somalia, Honduras, Afghanistan, Somalia, Kenya, DRC** and **Uganda**
- **45,777** infants under 5 years screened for malnutrition in **South Sudan** and **Somalia**
- **31,193** people were reached through group feeding programmes in **Afghanistan** and **DRC**
- More than **15,000** people reached with psychosocial support (PSS) in **Syria, Somalia** and **Afghanistan**
- Nutrition training for over **11,963** PHC givers of children below 2 years of age in **Philippines** and **Somalia**
- **9,680** children in **Philippines** received learning kits
- **9,268** households with people with disabilities received carer kits in **Vanuatu** and **500** women and children received hygiene kits in **Afghanistan**
- **4,312** people reached with emergency cash transfers in **Somalia, Syria, Mali, Philippines** and **Uganda** allowing families to meet their immediate needs.
- **2,033** people in **DRC** and **Vanuatu** received emergency climate resilient seed kits and animals as well as toolkits
- **64** health care workers were recruited and trained in **Somalia** and **South Sudan**
- **15** children received critical treatment in private hospitals for chronic & acute diseases, including surgery and mental health support in **Afghanistan**
- **Four** learning spaces were renovated and rehabilitated to create a conducive environment for education and growth in **Lebanon**



OUR APPROACHES IN WV IRELAND

Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)

All programmes supported by WV Ireland are considered to be GESI responsive and 40% of projects across 11 countries can be categorized as GESI transformative since they promote gender equality and social inclusion. **GESI assessments were conducted in all three grant-funded programmes starting in 2023 across ten countries**, following the WV Partnership guidance.

- The legal landscape presents a nuanced interplay between international commitments and domestic legislation aimed at safeguarding the rights of women, children, and persons with disabilities. Challenges persist in the effective implementation of these frameworks and gaps in enforcement mechanisms underscore the need for advocacy to drive comprehensive legal reforms.
- Discriminatory gender and age-related stereotypes, limited agency in economic decisions, the burden of unpaid care work, and disparities in housing, land and property ownership contribute significantly to gender inequalities. Actions to empower women economically should focus on developing comprehensive strategies to challenge norms, deal with assets & resources, remove systemic barriers to political and social participation, build solidarity and enhance accountability for affirmative action. Shifts in gender norms are acknowledged, particularly in conflict-affected areas, however safeguarding risks associated with these changes remain.

Advancing gender equality is core to both NOURISH and EMPOWER! Programmes as both projects have an outcome and specific indicators addressing youth and women's empowerment. The results from these assessments inform social behaviour change activities and guide staff on how to ensure that programmes adopt a holistic approach and leave no one behind in the areas of implementation over the coming years.

About women and girls leadership

The baseline for the NOURISH and EMPOWER! Programmes conducted in 2023 outlined that two thirds (67%) of women and girls interviewed believed that their voice can influence a change in policy and about a third (32%) of women reported holding leadership positions in their communities.

In the PEACE project in the **Philippines**, a quarter of women are among the peace mediators in the cities of Cotabato and Marawi where the project is implemented. The inclusion of women in the peace mediation mechanism remains a challenge and WV is working with women's commissions on the topic: in 2023, the commission helped identify women participants for the annual peace conference. Following their involvement with the Empowering Children as Peacebuilders (ECaP) programme, young women and girls can take on leadership roles, such as becoming the president of school and community peace clubs, which are seen as positive role models by youth in the community.



19-year-old Ruru participated in the ECaP programme and now leads a Peace Club in her community in the Philippines (WV13008320)



Addressing the Humanitarian – Development – Peacebuilding Nexus (HDPN)

In FY23, enabled by our generous childhood rescue (CHR) donors, WV Ireland continued to support the implementation of Humanitarian, Development and Peacebuilding Nexus (HDPN) programming across seven project sites in some of the world’s most fragile contexts - **Afghanistan, DRC, Honduras, Lebanon, Mali, Philippines and Somalia** - to address immediate survival needs and build towards a better future for vulnerable children and families.

Building on our pilot approach in **South Sudan** in FY22 to work flexibly across the HDPN in grant-funded projects, as part of the Irish Aid funded project HPP, World Vision Ireland expanded its nexus programming approach in three multi-year and grant-funded programmes across ten countries in FY2023. The approach was presented in the start-up workshops of these projects and rolled out in the first year of implementation, with a focus on monitoring changes in the context to enable adaptive and decentralised decision-making.

Overall, 60% of WV Ireland supported projects are implemented in fragile contexts across 10 countries, and about a quarter of those projects use adaptive programming to address the HDPN. In two of these countries, **Somalia** and the **Philippines**, there is an overlap between projects using the same nexus programming approach, which resulted in joint workshop to harmonise processes.

In the next four years and with our learning partnership with JRNY consulting, we aim to continue to reflect and refine our approach that is less about the starting context but one that offers a framework to reorient humanitarian, development and peace activities away from siloes towards collective outcomes and effectiveness. In the coming year, we will focus on revising the context monitoring systems for a simplified approach and also align more to the OECD DAC principle of better coordination when it comes to context analysis.

Lessons from the Humanitarian Programmes (HPP) pilot in South Sudan

WV Ireland has been supporting the use of adaptive programming in South Sudan since early 2019 in the Upper Nile region. The country leadership team has noted the value of the approach and included nexus programming into their five-year strategy. This leadership buy-in is essential to foster internal coordination between project teams.

Central to the approach has been regular context monitoring. We have established a context monitoring framework harmonised between countries while allowing regional or project specificities. This information can be used in real-time to change activities or as an anticipatory action tool. Through our learning processes, we have noted that we have focused on primary data at the expense of secondary data, and that the environment and climate change category needs particular attention in fragile contexts.

Learning Partnership with JRNY Consulting

“World Vision Ireland and JRNY Consulting have embarked on a transformative five-year partnership to learn about how to apply a HDP Nexus approach with a vision to “foster a shared learning experience generating knowledge to strengthen organizational capacity and champion effective nexus programming approaches.” JRNY at the fragility forum

The three objectives of this partnerships are (1) to co-design a comprehensive learning process for the duration of the ICSP Programme, (2) to facilitate and deliver at least one annual knowledge product with the within teams, and (3) to promote a learning and innovation culture within the HDPN from diverse perspectives and to foster two-way learning processes with partners. In 2023, JRNY Consulting have review guidance for the adaptive programming approach, collected feedback from implementing teams and compiled the information with an infographic, a podcast mini-series, an annual learning event and a learning paper.



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WV12983237 - Vanuatu - Feb2024 - WV providing support to the SHEFA Provincial Emergency Operations Centers (PEOC) to carry out rapid needs assessments and data entry after the Judy and Kevin tropical cyclones.