



World Vision

UGANDA

beyond the
numbers

UGANDA ANNUAL REPORT 2021

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World Vision Uganda

Mustafa tends to goats his family received under World Vision's livelihoods programme.

Read more on page 29



This Annual Report provides an overview of the work of World Vision in Uganda, from October 2020 to September 2021.

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With support from the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (BPRM), World Vision, through the Male Care Campaign, is working with boys like Emmanuel to promote equality between boys and girls and end violence against women and girls.

Board Chair's Foreword

Board Chair, Susan B. Lubega shares a light moment with a child at a consultative strategy workshop with children.



I am pleased to present this report for the financial year 2021. The report highlights World Vision Uganda's key achievements during the year. In many ways, it is a celebration of lives impacted and transformed. A testimony of the diligent commitment of national, international partners and the staff who worked tirelessly to meet the needs of the most vulnerable. Ultimately, it is a demonstration of what God can do with willing, giving hearts.

Despite the disruptions brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, World Vision has actively responded to the needs of the most vulnerable children in the communities where it works. This has been in no small part, due to the proactive leadership of the management and Board of Directors. Our 5-year National Strategy envisions World Vision contributing to the improved and sustained well-being of 5.2 million Ugandan children, and I am pleased that we are making encouraging progress towards this goal. I applaud the World Vision Uganda team for their commitment and hard work during the year.

There is a Swahili saying that a "child is not nursed by a single hand". Recognising this, I would therefore like to extend my sincere appreciation to all the stakeholders, including donors, sponsors, project partners, and the World Vision Partnership who have meaningfully contributed. Despite the sector-wide economic crunch witnessed by development actors, your commitment meant that for hundreds of thousands there was a reason to keep hope alive.

Key among our partners is the Government of Uganda, who not only provided in-kind and financial support to

our work, but also a suitable enabling environment. The Government's notable commitment to protecting the nation's children was highlighted by the enacting the Prevention and Prohibition of Human Sacrifice Act, 2021.

In addition, the introduction of key policies and guidelines, such as the 'National Guidelines for the Safe Re-entry of Pregnant Girls into School', are applauded. World Vision contributed greatly to the development of these guidelines.

There has also been progress in increased collaboration with the private sector, cultural and faith institutions, as well as other civil society actors. One area we are particularly excited about is the increased focus on emerging partnerships for local resource mobilisation. Looking forward to the challenges ahead, the Board is committed to leveraging its networks to grow the local resource base required to realise our 2021-2025 National Strategy.

Finally, this report also marks the end of my term as Board Chair. I am grateful for all we have been able to achieve, and look forward to all that we will achieve under the leadership of the new Chair, Mr. George William Nyeko.

Susan B. Lubega

National Director's Message



There is no other way to put it; 2021 was a very tough year. By August, the statistics were grim. Without the safety-net that schools usually provide, over half a million teenage girls had been defiled and impregnated; forced to become mothers before fully knowing what childhood is. COVID-19 infections had peaked, and lockdown-driven domestic violence was rampant. In the most vulnerable communities where we work, the after-effects of the pandemic worsened the grim effects of poverty and exclusion. The usually precarious lives of the children living in these locations made even more uncertain.

Thankfully, beyond the numbers, are people; real lives whose resilience, hopes and aspirations refuse to be bundled-up and summarised as mere statistics. This report is about the children and families we serve, and how World Vision has been able to work with them and their communities in order to protect their futures.

In a year characterised by shutdowns, downsizing and closures, we were encouraged to see our fundraising targets not only met but also exceeded. This was due to several factors: generous donors that recognised the urgency of the moment, as well as a capable and committed workforce that ensured excellent programme delivery.

Key among the drivers of our work was a refocused National Strategy that put the most vulnerable children at the centre of not just what we do, but how we do it. For people like Joyce Komaa, a South Sudanese mother of two living in Bidibidi Refugee Settlement, this meant access to our livelihoods programme, enabling her to go from surviving on monthly cash handouts of UGX 180,000 (\$50) to savings of 6m (\$1,600).

Our Child Protection programmes meant that children like 12-year-old Joan, defiled by an uncle she looked up to as a father, could go to sleep knowing that her attacker is now locked-up in prison and not in the room next door.

The year was also one of increased advocacy, partnerships and collaborations, understanding as we do, that the responsibility of protecting, nurturing and nourishing the most vulnerable children requires concerted effort. Through our Education, WASH, and Faith & Development programmes, we have built the capacity of teachers, health workers, faith and cultural leaders and volunteers to respond to the needs of their communities and be the first line of defence against child abuse.

Faced with unprecedented challenges, our programming also became a site of innovation, with initiatives such as Nexus Area Programmes ensuring that our programming responded equally to the needs of both refugees and host communities.

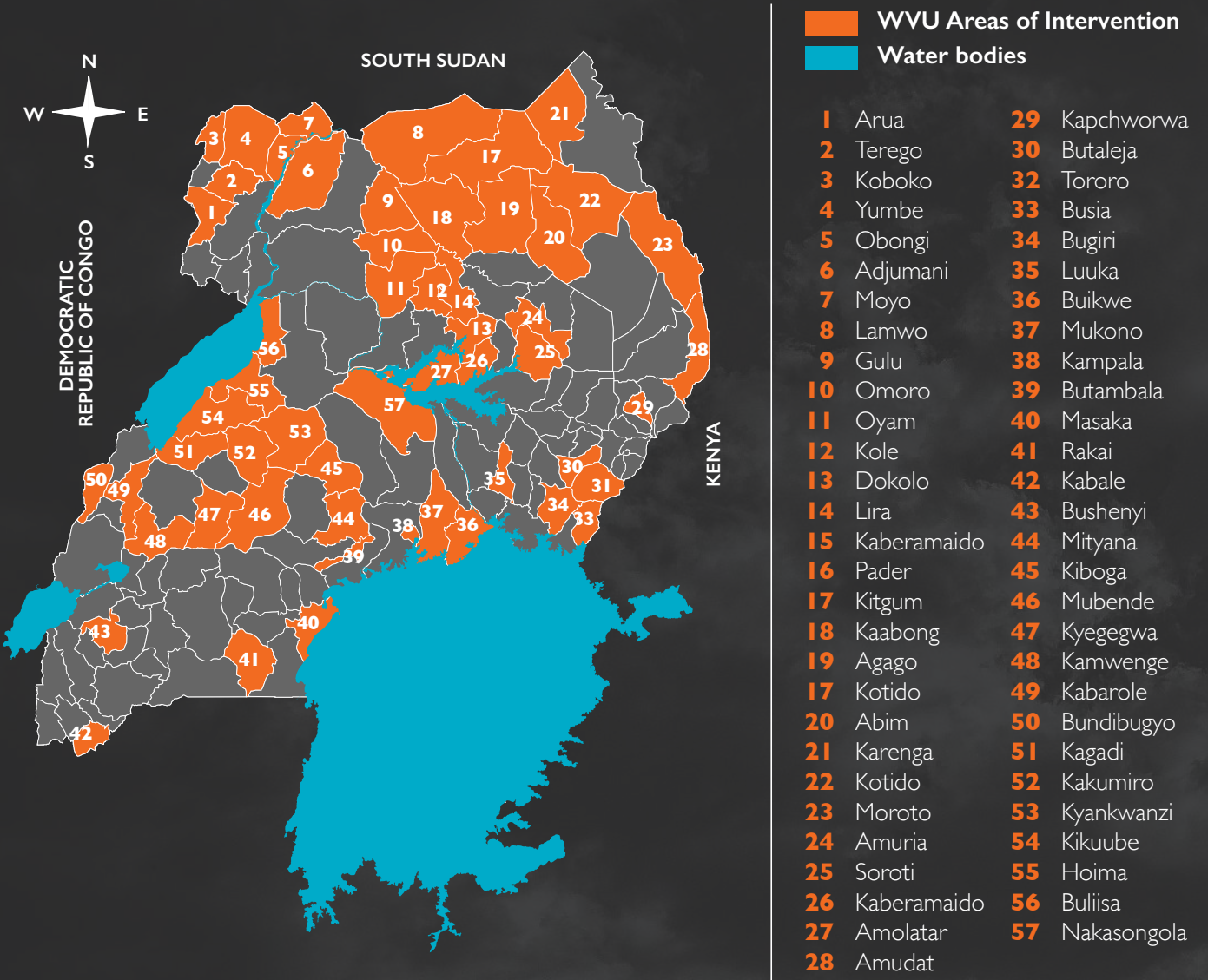
There is no doubt a lot more that can be done, and there are many more children to reach. However, we remain encouraged by the progress made, and thankful for the support of all of those who journeyed with us during the year. In particular, we are grateful to our God who made it possible.

Jason Evans



Our Presence

World Vision worked with children, their families and communities in 57 districts across Uganda to address the root causes of poverty and injustice through our health, livelihoods, education and protection interventions.

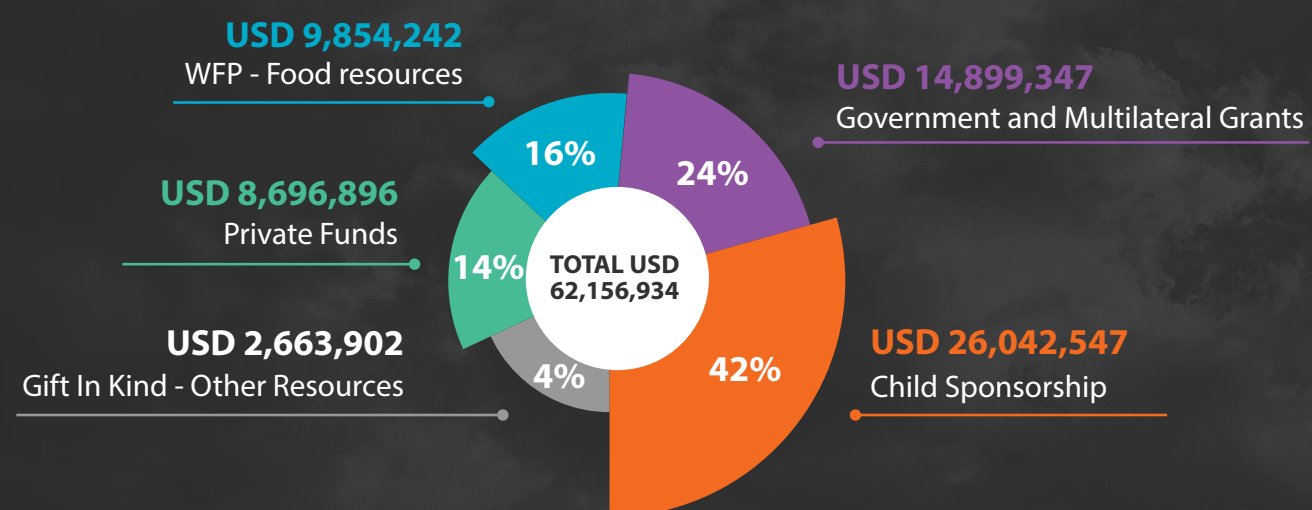


FY21 Financial Highlights



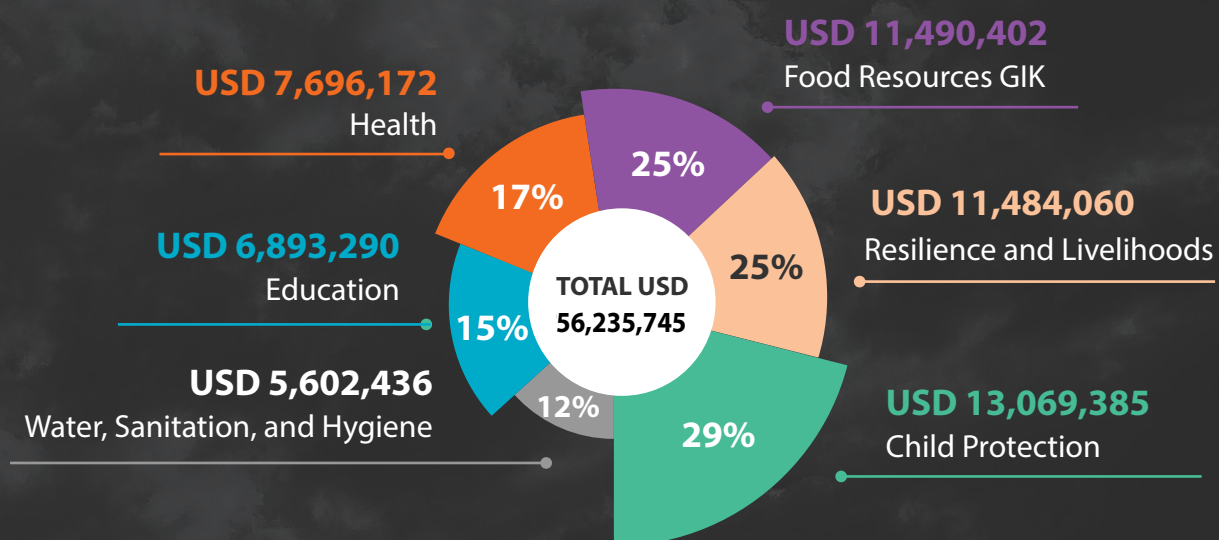
Resources for the Ministry

Child Sponsorship	USD 26,042,547
Government & Multilateral Grants	USD 14,899,347
WFP - Food resources	USD 9,854,242
Private Funds	USD 8,696,896
Gift in kind - Other Resources	USD 2,663,902
TOTAL	USD 62,156,934



Ministry Spending by Sector Programming (Cash)

Resilience and Livelihoods	USD 11,484,060
Education	USD 6,893,290
Health	USD 7,696,172
Child Protection	USD 13,069,385
Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	USD 5,602,436
Food Resources GIK	USD 11,490,402
TOTAL	USD 56,235,745





CHILD PROTECTION

Supported SDG



This programme aims to increase the number of children who have positive and peaceful relationships in their families and communities free from child marriage, child sacrifice, and violence.

OUR WORK

In 2021, we reached more than 1.1 million children through various programme interventions. We reported an increase in the number of children who have positive and peaceful relationships in their families and communities. We prioritised core life skills training, empowering more than 30,000 boys and girls as change agents to end violence against children.

The COVID-19 pandemic presented more risks to children's safety and well-being than had been experienced in a generation. The country witnessed increased teenage pregnancies, child marriages and other forms of child abuse. Recognising that empowered parents and faith

leaders are vital in nurturing and protecting children, we skilled them to protect children from all forms of violence.

We collaborated with communities, partners and the government to strengthen child protection structures. Through this collaboration, we were able to influence legislation and policies that enhance the protection of children.

We leveraged international and national platforms to amplify voices and appeals to end all forms of violence against children.

The Child Protection programme reached more than 1.1 million children through different interventions, all contributing to an increase in children who have positive and peaceful relationships in their families and communities.

Our Models and Approaches



Citizen Voice and Action (CVA)

Communities monitor and advocate for safe environments for children.

Channels of Hope

Equip faith leaders to use their role and combat cultural beliefs that negatively impact communities.



Celebrating Families

Support parents and caregivers to create family and community environments that foster children's spiritual development and overall well-being.

CHOOSING SCHOOL OVER MARRIAGE



In Kahunge, western Uganda, girls as young as 12 drop out of school to get married. For many of these girls, marriage seems like the only option. Juliet, who at the time was a confident 15-year-old excelling at maths and aspiring to be a nurse, succumbed to peer pressure and got married to a man ten years older whom she barely knew.

Juliet's child marriage is not unique. A third of Ugandan women are married as children. While the COVID-19 pandemic that forced schools to shut for almost two years partly accounts for these figures, high poverty levels and parental negligence of girls cannot be understated.

As Juliet went into marriage, people in her community searched for her. Behind the effort was her father, Claver Saturday, a World Vision-supported Community

child well-being committee member. Thanks to training in child protection, when Juliet's father realised his daughter was missing, he knew what to do.

Juliet's father is now an ambassador working to change mind-sets of parents in his community to protect their young daughters from child marriage. "Child marriage violates children's rights," says Claver. "It cuts short a girl's education and increases her risk of experiencing physical, sexual abuse and health problems."

In Uganda, school dropout rates among girls are much higher than boys, with child marriage being the most common reason for leaving school. Ending child marriage is possible. It takes every one of us to end violence against children.

HIGHLIGHTS



More than
30,000

Boys and girls meaningfully participated in actions supporting ending violence against children.



950

Child protection cases were reported and referred to relevant institutions and structures.



479

Community child protection structures were established and supported to improve case reporting and referral.



More than
124,000

Parents demonstrated increased knowledge of children's positive discipline and other child protection-related issues.



More than
30,000

Boys and girls completed the life skills curriculum (6 months or longer).



43,000

Boys and girls participated in the spiritual nurture initiatives.



EDUCATION

Supported SDGs



Our Education Programme contributes to increasing the number of primary school children who can read by supporting effective teaching and learning, child participation and ensuring access to an inclusive and safe learning environment. We work with teachers, parents, communities, local and national leaders and partners to address barriers to access and quality education for primary school children. We build the capacity of teachers and communities to support both school and community literacy activities within a protective and safe environment for girls and boys.



OUR WORK

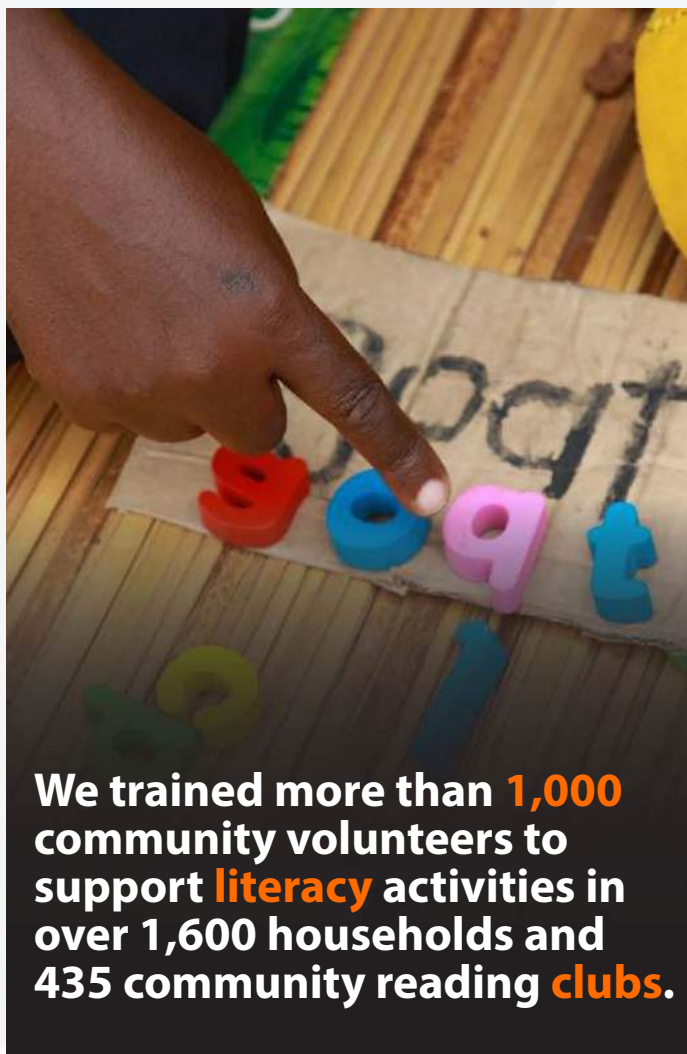
We implemented 36 education projects in 635 primary schools and 435 community literacy centres. We focused on improving reading skills in lower primary school through our proven models, such as Unlock Literacy and Learning Roots, which support community initiatives for Early Childhood Development.

The outbreak of COVID-19 and the subsequent closure of schools disrupted school activities for almost two years, affecting more than 15 million children. The most vulnerable children in hard-to-reach areas, including children on the move and those living with disabilities, were most affected.

The prolonged school lockdown threatened the collective progress toward achieving inclusive and equitable education (Sustainable Development Goal #4).

In response to this threat, we collaborated with the Ministry of Education and Sports, parents and community leaders to implement an adaptation plan to support home-based learning.

Through these efforts, we reached more than 174,000 children (86,424 boys; 88,024 girls) with self-study materials and trained over 1,000 community literacy volunteers. The volunteers supported learning activities in over 1,600 households and 435 community reading clubs. We provided 640 teachers with bicycles to facilitate home learning and the dissemination of COVID-19 prevention messages.



We trained more than 1,000 community volunteers to support literacy activities in over 1,600 households and 435 community reading clubs.

Our Models and Approaches



Unlock Literacy

Assess and strengthen classroom learning environment and systems, engage parents and community for action.

Learning Roots

Focus on children ages 3-6 to transition successfully to Primary school.



Citizen Voice and Action (CVA)

Communities trained and empowered to create safe learning facilities and help reduce disaster risks in schools.

PRINT-RICH CLASSROOMS SUPPORT EARLY LEARNING IN UGANDA

Print-rich classrooms use locally available materials like polythene bags, plastic bottles, bottle tops, wood, boxes, paper, and glue. World Vision provides materials to protect the finished learning materials from dust and damage.

"I am happy that things we considered rubbish are now decorating our classes and helping us learn," says a 10-year-old Maria, a pupil in Butambala district. "Before introducing print-rich classrooms, learning was boring and difficult. We would not understand what the teachers were saying."

Before, you would hardly find a school in Butambala with the first grade, a top rated in Primary Leaving Examinations-the final exams before transitioning to secondary school in Uganda. Mary, World Vision's Education Project Officer, says schools did not have teaching and learning materials as it is now. "The classroom environment was not inspiring at all," she says. "Children couldn't read which affected their learning."

Working with families, communities and local district education partners, World Vision helped children take an active role in their learning. "We managed to change the classroom's ambience from an empty, dull hall to a colourful live learning museum for children. We appreciate the lasting impact of quality education on the lives of children now and for generations to come," says Mary.

Now, in the communities supported, it is common to find parents involved and interested in the learning of their children, a thing that was almost unheard of before.

Since 2019, World Vision has impacted 3,500 children (2,053 girls and 1,447 boys) in this community through print-rich classrooms. In Maria's school alone, we have reached 177 children (92 boys and 85 girls).



HIGHLIGHTS



More than
174,000

Children (88,024 girls and 86,424 boys) supported to continue their education through home-based learning.



435

Community literacy centers established, reaching 14,793 children.



284

Schools established with Early Warning Systems.



More than
72,000

Children received locally relevant reading materials.



640

Teachers, 11,409 parents and 1,662 community volunteers trained to support reading at home.



143

Schools established with Safety Networks.



HEALTH AND NUTRITION

Supported SDGs



Children and their welfare are at the centre of what we do. The overall goal of our health and nutrition programme is to contribute to an increase in children between 0 and 5 years who are well-nourished and protected from infection and disease. Working with established community structures, we support households and communities to access and utilise appropriate reproductive, child health and nutrition practices and services.

OUR WORK

In the year reported, we worked with more than 2,900 community health workers and 422 mother care groups. We reached over 60,000 children under five years of age and nearly 50,000 women of reproductive age, registering an increase in positive health behaviour at the household level.

We collaborated with the Ministry of Health and district local governments to strengthen health systems. We trained health workers to deliver quality reproductive, maternal, child health and nutrition services and supported 41 health facilities to conduct routine monthly integrated outreach in hard-to-reach communities. We covered baby-friendly health facility initiatives and emergency obstetric and newborn care packages.

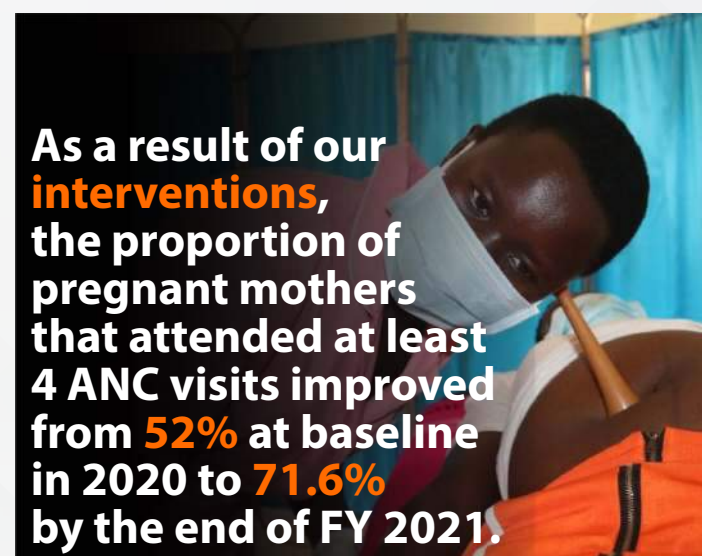
As a result of these interventions, the proportion of pregnant mothers that attended at least four antenatal care visits improved from 52% at baseline in 2020 to 71.6% at the end of 2021. The proportion of exclusively breastfed children for at least six months significantly increased.

Following the outbreak of COVID-19, we responded to the challenge of protecting children from the devastating aftershocks of this disease. We worked with the Government to develop the National Guidelines for Preventive and Management of COVID-19 and supported the National Risk Communications and Awareness Campaign.

We provided health workers with protective equipment and supplies and worked with district task forces to conduct a

barrier analysis on the acceptance of the COVID-19 vaccine. World Vision was part of the expert panel that reviewed the Reproductive, Maternal, Neonatal, Child, Adolescent Health (RMNCAH) Plan.

We chaired the Nutrition forum of the RMNCAH Civil Society Organisation's platform and co-chaired the National Food Systems Summit with the Ministry of Health. World Vision participated in the National Information Platform for Nutrition Policy advisory committee.



Our Models and Approaches



Timed Targeted Counseling

Counseling services offered to pregnant and breastfeeding women and their household members to increase adoption of appropriate maternal, child health and nutrition practices.

Positive Deviance Hearth +

A community-led approach applied to identify and address mild, moderate and severe malnutrition in children under three years using locally available foods.



Citizen Voice and Action for Health

Communities trained and empowered to use Citizen Voice and Action to engage with their leaders and demand for quality maternal, child health and nutrition services.

Other models and approaches: Nurturing Care Groups, Integrated Community Case Management, and Health Systems Strengthening.

COMMUNITIES EMPOWERED TO DEMAND IMPROVED SERVICES



Citizen Voice and Action (CVA) is a World Vision advocacy approach that empowers communities to raise concerns and participate in decision-making on service delivery issues. The most recent success of this approach is a maternity theatre renovated at Nankoma Health Centre in Bugiri district in Eastern Uganda. Before World Vision came to this community, construction works were poor, and absenteeism among the government health workers was rampant.

"We had everything upside down," says Patrick Kyuka, the lead CVA practitioner. "Without anyone to enforce standards and to make the health workers accountable, they worked as they wished. But this changed once World Vision trained us to advocate for quality service delivery."

During a community dialogue with leaders, Nankoma CVA members led by Patrick articulated issues affecting their

community and demanded action. For Nankoma residents, the priority was a maternity ward to prevent pregnant women from walking long distances. Today, the renovated theatre serves 4 to 5 women daily who previously would make a minimum of a 6-hour journey to and from the nearest health facility.

Fatuma Mudumi is among the first mothers to be operated on in the theatre after its renovation. "Before, we had difficulty accessing theatre services as the nearest hospital was over 10km from here," she recalls. "It was worse for mothers who developed pregnancy-related complications. If you survived, it was by the grace of God."

Fatuma considers herself lucky that when she had complications, qualified medical workers, saving her life and that of her baby, quickly attended to her. "The theatre was working, and there were health workers who attended to me in time," she says.

As a lead mother in her community, Fatuma encourages pregnant women to attend antenatal care and deliver from the health facility. "It's risky for pregnant women to fail to attend antenatal care and to deliver from home," she says.

With a fully-fledged maternity wing, Nankoma Health Centre now provides all maternal and child health services. Pregnant women and mothers do not have to trek long distances or wait for long hours, thanks to advocacy skills gained by community members like Patrick to make leaders accountable.

HIGHLIGHTS



More than **18 million**

People reached with COVID-19 preventive messaging.



More than **12,000**

households (60,601 children 0-59 months and 49,493 pregnant and breastfeeding women) were reached by a trained community health worker with appropriate maternal, child health and nutrition messages.



183

Children with moderate acute malnutrition rehabilitated to full recovery.



81%

of children exclusively breastfed for six months in 2021 (from 70% in 2020).



72%

of pregnant women attended at least four antenatal visits in 2021 (from 52% in 2020).



More than

10,000

Handwashing facilities established and maintained for COVID-19 prevention.



WASH

(Water, Sanitation and Hygiene)

Supported SDG



Our WASH Programme focuses on increased access to clean water, improved sanitation and adopting appropriate hygiene practices. Our WASH programme is aligned to the National Development Plan III and SDG goals 2, 3, 6, 13 and 17.

OUR WORK

In 2021, World Vision reached more than 491,000 people through the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) programme. Of these, more than half (285,333) were children.

We exceeded most of our targets, especially in supporting communities accessing WASH resources such as water points, latrines, and handwashing facilities.

We expanded our focus to disaster-affected communities, responding to emergencies in order to serve the most vulnerable children. Our COVID-19 response programme involved supporting communities to establish WASH facilities and helping them to practice improved hygiene behaviour, including handwashing. We reached twice as many people in 2021 than 2020.

We participated in developing the Uganda National Integrated WASH and Neglected Tropical Diseases framework 2021, Hand Washing Strategy 2021 and National Guidelines for WASH in Health Care Facilities in Uganda. These are Government national standards that guide on effective implementation of WASH programmes in the country.

Through our Household Engagement and Accountability Approach, we successfully implemented our WASH programme despite the disruptions resulting from the COVID-19 lockdown. By design, the household cluster approach empowers households to identify their priorities, resources, and solutions to address their issues.

Our Models and Approaches



Community Led Total Sanitation Plus (CLTS+)

An integrated approach that encompasses Follow Up Mandona (FUM) and Sanitation Marketing designed to facilitate communities to conduct their own appraisal and analysis of open defecation (OD).

Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST)

Designed to promote hygiene behavioural change, sanitation improvements and community management of WASH facilities.



Designing for Behaviour Change

Behaviour change ensures the safe, effective, and sustainable use of WASH services provided, helping change norms that can transform communities and enable achievement of health and well-being.

Children's Hygiene and Sanitation Training (CHAST)

This approach promotes good hygiene behaviours among children by using a variety of exercises and educational games to target children aged between 5 and 12 years.



WASH FIT

The digital platform supporting healthcare facilities improved the quality of care through provision of WASH services and management.

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL WITH ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER

Imagine competing for contaminated river water with animals, more so if you are a person with a disability. Two years ago, that was life for some South Sudanese refugees in Omugo Refugee Settlement, West Nile sub-region.

The alternative to river water was a few public water points whose taps were often dry. It was common to see women and children queue up for hours to get water. Sometimes, it took three days for the water to return. The water would disappear before everyone finished fetching, forcing many to resort to dirty river water for survival.

"We had no option but to use river water," says Rerida Daawa, a mother of five. "It was the nearest source where we would draw water for daily use. For water meant for drinking, we boiled it, but it still maintained its dirty colour. It even changed the colour of the food."

In 2019, World Vision, with funding from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland, constructed a motorised water system relieving more than 34,000 people from the burden of looking for water. Sixty-six per cent of these are refugees like Rerida.

Beatrice, 12, has a physical disability. She can collect water for her household at an adapted water point near her home, a thing that was not possible before. "With this wheelchair, I can do many things, including fetching water for my family. I am grateful to World Vision

for making my movement easier—and for the water. Life is now beautiful," Beatrice says.

Besides bringing water closer to the community, World Vision distributed more than 1,000 water containers to households of persons with disabilities to ensure safe water for consumption.

World Vision is implementing a two-year Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Inclusive project in order to improve access to WASH services for 40,000 refugees and host community members in Omugo sub-county.

With the water flowing constantly, girls like Beatrice and mothers like Rerida no longer have to worry about long distances and lost hours. Now there is water for all.



HIGHLIGHTS



More than

140,000

People (59,183 adults and 81,730 children) supported to gain access to clean water.



More than

192,000

People educated on proper hygiene and practiced handwashing with soap to prevent disease and infection.



27

Healthcare facilities supplied with water and sanitation infrastructure and elevated to provide maternity health services, including safe child delivery.



More than

158,000

Individuals (66,647 adults and 92,034 children) accessed improved sanitation.



146

Villages were certified as Open Defecation Free.



RESILIENCE & LIVELIHOODS

Supported SDGs



Our Resilience and Livelihoods programme aims at improving the quality of life for the most vulnerable children and communities we work with, equipping them with the skills, resources and networks necessary to enable them pursue their dreams.

OUR WORK

This programme empowered families to improve their agricultural production and increase income to provide for their children. Our interventions focused on training communities in best farming practices, financial literacy, and business enterprise.

Inspired by the goal to break the cycle of inter-generational poverty, we worked with over 52,000 parents in communities where World Vision operates child sponsorship programmes in order to increase and diversify their income.

We focused on preparing communities to recover from the aftershocks of the COVID-19 pandemic by promoting a savings culture and financial inclusion through savings groups and microfinance services. As a result, 28% of households - above the national level target of 14% -

reported an increase in income by 9% from the baseline. We have established more than 6,000 savings groups, which we have linked to VisionFund to access financial services. In 2021, over 169,000 savers (60% women) accumulated close to UGX 12,306,986,376 (US\$3.5m) in savings.

Through our collaboration with VisionFund, savings groups have been able to access small-scale business enterprise loans to a tune of UGX 8,107,500,187 (US\$ 2.2m). The business enterprises supported have enabled creation of more than 70,000 sustainable jobs, impacting more than 610,000 children.

In partnership with Government, Private sector and Partners, we reached more than 936,000 people through our resilience and livelihoods interventions. Worth noting that 65% of these were women.

We have established more than 6,000 savings groups, which we have linked to VisionFund to access financial services. In 2021, over 169,000 savers (60% women) accumulated close to UGX 12,306,986,376 (US\$3.5m) in savings.



Our Models and Approaches



Building Secure Livelihoods (BSL)

Support 'marginally poor' households with young children to improve their agricultural production and increase family income.



Saving for Transformation (S4T)

Improve household income through savings groups.



Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR)

Promotes restoration of the environment and natural resource through indigenous tree stumps and seedlings.



Ultra-poor graduation (UPG)

Support extremely poor household engage in productive and resilient livelihoods.



Empowered Worldview

Behavioural / mindset change tool for community engagement.

HOPE RISES AS REFUGEE FAMILIES BECOME FOOD SECURE

Moses became a refugee in 2016. Trained to do farming as a business, he is one of more than 215,000 South Sudanese refugees living in Adjumani district, West Nile sub-region. Adjumani has the second-largest refugee population in Uganda because of its proximity to South Sudan. Most do not know when they will return to their home country.

Back home in South Sudan, Moses farmed any crop he could for his family to eat, and sold the surplus to help his meagre income stretch a little further. When war forced him to flee to neighbouring Uganda, it was difficult for Moses to see his family depend on food rations from humanitarian agencies.

"We planted anything [and] anyhow," says Moses. "Nobody ever told us what to plant and how to plant. We were not applying improved knowledge and skills when farming."

Equipped with farming knowledge and skills and supported with quality seeds, Moses aspired to become independent.

He was determined to change the circumstances for his wife, Janet, 29, and their young family of children aged between 6 months and 10.

After receiving the training and vegetable seeds, Moses hired four acres of land in the host community at UGX 600,000 (US\$160) annually. He harvested 50 bags of tomatoes and green pepper in the first season, earning him

UGX13 million (US\$3,600). "I felt rich instantly," says Moses.

Two years later, he has earned enough money to start a series of other small businesses. He has purchased a motorcycle and a bicycle. His wife opened a grocery shop, and things are looking good. "With new businesses, we are more self-reliant," he says.



HIGHLIGHTS



More than
52,000

Household members supported to participate in savings groups.



More than
2,000

Farmer groups trained and linked to business development services.



More than
28,000

Household members supported to access markets.



More than
6,000

Households supported to access insurance products to cushion against shocks and stresses.



More than
35,000

Household members supported to adopt climate-smart agricultural practices and technologies, such as Farmers Managed Natural Regeneration, agroforestry, and the use of energy-saving technologies.



REFUGEE RESPONSE

Supported SDGs



World Vision Uganda has been responding to the refugee crisis since March 2014. In March 2020, the Uganda Refugee Response was re-declared a Sustained Humanitarian Response to focus on the building of self-reliance for the refugees. We worked to strengthen livelihoods, growing youth skills and training local structures to take up child protection roles and facilities in their areas, even as we respond to the immediate humanitarian needs of newly arriving refugees.



OUR WORK

For the year reported, we worked with the government, donors and partners to implement interventions that reached more than 233,000 children (131,364 girls & 102,188 boys). We focussed on food distribution, cash, food assistance, cash transfers, education, and livelihoods empowerment across refugee settlements and host communities in West Nile.

Our grant portfolio continued to grow, reaching the US\$ 12 million target set for the year. We established two Area Programmes in Omugo and Odupi to cater for refugee children and children from the host communities, marking the first time for a child sponsorship programme to be operated in a fragile context.

The implication here has been that rather than deal with only the immediate basic needs of the area, we boldly responded to the long-term needs of children from refugee settlements and host communities.

This nexus programming approach allowed us to focus on the individual and community needs. We worked to adapt, contextualise and integrate core programme models into all projects within the Refugee Response Programme.

These included Building Secure Livelihoods, Savings for Transformation, Empowered Worldview, Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration, the Household Engagement and Accountability Approach, Case Management and Humanitarian Accountability.

Born through a response to the needs of war-affected children in Korea, World Vision has extensive experience responding to major emergencies. We bring life-saving support in times of disaster.

We are committed to long-term rehabilitation, helping communities affected by natural disasters or conflicts get back on their feet. We worked with refugee and host communities in West Nile to establish priorities and the time it will take to achieve their goals.



We also established two Area Programmes in Omugo and Odupi to cater for children on the move and children from the host communities in West Nile.

FROM DESPAIR TO HOPE: MUSTAFA CAN DREAM AGAIN

When the conflict in South Sudan spiralled out of control, it did not spare a 10-year-old Mustafa and his family of six siblings. "Everything happened so fast," John, Mustafa's father, recalls staring into the distance. "In the blink of an eye, all was gone."

Mustafa's family lost 37 cows, 24 goats, general merchandise and approximately 100,000 Sudanese pounds (US\$250). "I felt terrible losing everything I had worked for over seven years in a matter of seconds," says John as a crowing cock snaps him back to a new reality.

Desperation almost drove John to suicide. "I didn't know where to begin," he says. "I was on the verge of destroying my life, had it not been my wife encouraging me never to give up on life. I recall my wife saying anything is possible when you are alive."

That was in early 2018.

In 2019, John's household was among more than 2,500 families in Omugo and Imvepi Refugee Settlements that received a goat, courtesy of World Vision's Gift Catalogue. The initiative involves overseas sponsors gifting families with animals like goats.

"We had lost everything back home in South Sudan. I am happy that there are good people out there thinking about us," says Edina, Mustafa's mother, pointing at "Iyete", the goat her son Mustafa received from World Vision. Iyete means thank you in Kakwa, Mustafa's language.

Iyete has since sired and multiplied. Presently, the family has 17 goats. "Everyone loves her [Iyete] because of her peaceful nature. She is also beautiful and doesn't disturb,"

says Mustafa, who takes his goats to graze on the Ucia hill a few metres from their home every morning.

Saving the family from hunger

Mustafa's family was not worried after the UN World Food Programme cut the food rations during the year due to financial shortfalls. A sale of a single goat earned them between US\$21 and US\$28—enough cash to buy them food until the next food distribution cycle. "I think if we didn't have goats, our family situation would have been grim," says Edina.

Each time they sell a goat, Mustafa and his siblings are happy because they know there will be a diet change. "We usually eat meat or fish when my parents sell a goat. Sometimes they buy us new clothes," says Mustafa.

As the goats drift away, Mustafa runs home to join his siblings, who are waiting to take a bite of the crunchy pancakes made by their mother. Edina started the pancake business with US\$3 from the first sale of goats. As the goats multiplied, they sold more and injected an additional US\$75 into the shop business.

Today, the pancake business and the shop are doing well, with the latter's worth estimated at US\$282. "In a day, we make enough money to cater for our daily family needs, including school requirements. I am grateful to World Vision for loving us," says John.

Mustafa's parents have also joined a local savings group where they save at least US\$2 weekly. With goats multiplying, businesses thriving and engagement with the savings group, the future of Mustafa's family is secure.

HIGHLIGHTS



More than
470,000
people reached through integrated interventions. Of these 233,552 were children.



More than
5,000
People reached with cash transfers.



610
Savings groups established and trained members in financial literacy and group dynamics.



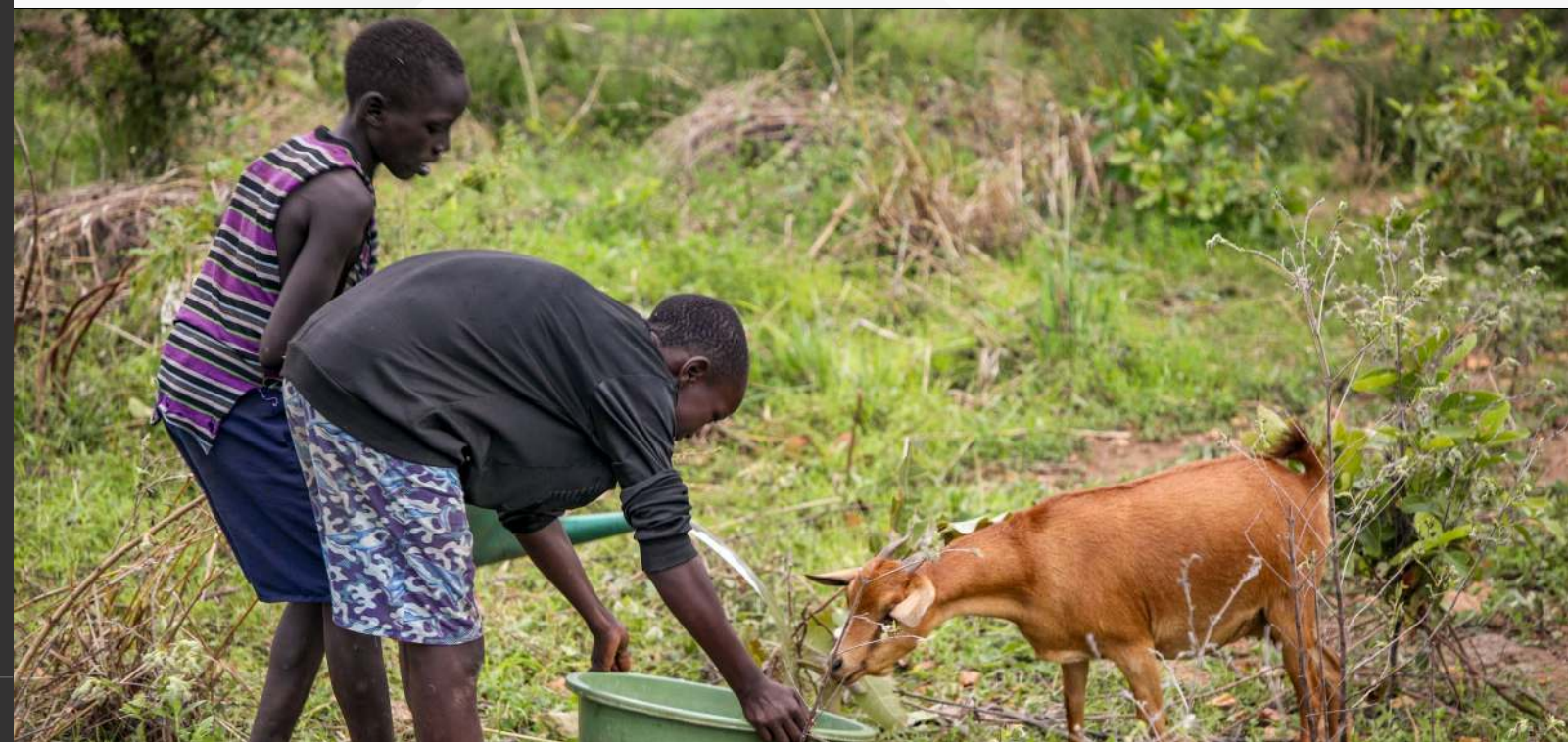
232,000
People reached with food assistance.



More than
12,000
Children provided with vital services through child-friendly spaces, including emotional support and counseling



More than
2,655
people trained for employment.





DISASTER MANAGEMENT

Supported SDG



Our Disaster Management includes prevention, mitigation, preparedness, early warning, response, and recovery.

Source: <https://www.summitcl.com>

OUR WORK

In a year characterised by natural disasters, hunger and an influx of refugees, World Vision provided timely humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable and affected communities. Our response covered disaster-prone areas, including Bundibugyo, Kasese, Nakasongola, and Karamoja. In addition, we scaled up our Refugee response support to new refugee arrivals in South Western Uganda.

We supported communities to strengthen their resilience against disasters in 49 districts. We collaborated to establish community disaster management structures at district and sub-county levels to assess risks, manage and respond to disasters. We enhanced disaster risk reduction structures in 658 schools to ensure learners access safe, conducive, and inclusive environments.

We collaborated with the government and partners to maximise disaster response speed and effectiveness. We participated in technical working groups and coordinated our work with other agencies on the ground. This collaboration enabled us to deliver aid where it was most needed. In areas where World Vision was already working with the community, we leveraged these relationships to enhance our immediate disaster response capacity to minimise damage and casualties.

HIGHLIGHTS



More than
920,000

People including 413,919 children, reached with humanitarian assistance.



More than
144,116

Children (76,381 girls and 67,735 boys) reached through COVID-19 Response.



More than
11,000

Children (6,172 girls & 5,501 boys) reached through the flood's response in Uganda.



455

Children (234 females & 221 males) reached through the South West Refugee response in Bundibugyo.



More than
24,000

Children (14,822 girls & 9,751 boys) reached through the locust/hunger response in Karamoja.



More than
246,000

Adults (121,207 females & 125,651 males) reached through COVID-19 Response Plan.



More than
9,000

Adults (3,668 females & 5,509 males) reached through the Floods Response in Uganda.



3,000

Adults (2,586 females & 606 males) reached through the South West Refugee response in Bundibugyo.



More than
10,000

Adults (7,314 females & 2,723 males) reached through Locusts/Hunger response in Karamoja.

KARAMOJA'S HIDDEN HERO



Esther Ajalo is a Livelihoods Project Officer with the Karamoja Locust Response Project. Based in Moroto district, the mother of three has served with World Vision since July 2020, demonstrating resilience beyond the call of duty.

Every day, she rides through the terrains of Tapac sub-county to reach the last farmer in Lopelipel community. Here, the roads are often impassable, and telephone communication is intermittent. "Sometimes, it feels like travelling to nowhere—the place of no return," says Esther. "But still, we work with farmers there to help them improve their quality of life and pursue their dreams."

Esther supports over 30 farmer groups in Tapac sub-county. She sometimes goes the extra mile to hunt down farmers working in the mines in some parishes like Kosiroy, where seasonal migration is so common due to mining activities. "If I don't find group members at their homes, I have to look for them in the mines and hold a meeting there," she says.

Over time, Esther's relentless effort and commitment have yielded positive results. Many families in Karamoja have increased their crop production and now concentrate on farming. It is now common to find families settled and undertaking farming, a thing that was unheard of in this mostly nomadic community.

Inspired by her success, Esther is extending best practices to the additional communities of Musupo and Nukuoro in Rupa sub-county. These are areas known for cattle raids,

but she is optimistic about changing the story using World Vision's proven resilience and livelihoods models and approaches like Building Secure Livelihoods and Savings for Transformation.

"I want to see every family in communities where we work food secure, beat chronic poverty and vulnerability, and have their resilience to climate change and other shocks enhanced," says Esther.

For that reason, no terrain or amount of flooding will stop Esther from reaching farmers. She is partnering with the district local government, sub-counties and volunteer trainers to pass on the best farming practices to farmers even in the most challenging communities.

Esther does not only train farmers to adopt the best farming practices, she has introduced the concept of savings groups and trained participant farmers in financial literacy and group dynamics.

The uptake has been impressive, with up to UGX12 million collected in savings. Savings group members have created jobs directly impacting children. More farmers can now access credit at the lowest interest rates in order to start or expand their business enterprises.

"We don't have ready statistics yet, but from the success stories, the household economy in this area has significantly improved. Families have diversified incomes and can now nurture and nourish their children," says Esther.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CHILD SPONSORSHIP



Supported SDGs



Solving extreme poverty starts with empowering people to help themselves. Our child sponsorship programme connects sponsors with children and their communities to address the root causes of poverty for children.

OUR WORK

With the generous support of our sponsors, World Vision, through its Community Engagement and Sponsorship Programme, reached more than 138,000 Registered Children (70,518 girls and 67,752 boys), their families and communities. We opened five new Area Programmes across in West Nile and Karamoja.

We focused on empowering communities and households as agents of change. We fostered a greater sense of community interdependence, increasing the number of household clusters and community volunteer associations.

At the height of the pandemic, the household clusters enabled programme continuity, with caregivers working together to solve the children's academic, health, and socio-economic needs while adhering to the prevailing COVID-19 travel and contact restrictions. Our long-term presence in communities enabled us to respond and protect families from the aftershocks of COVID-19.

We equipped adolescents with transformative life-sustaining vocational skills such as carpentry, crafts making and bakery.

We increased sponsor and children engagement through quality communication and media content, including letters, annual progress reports, child update videos and photos. These frequent and timely interactions enabled sponsors and children to connect better.

Through CHOSEN, we put the power of choice into children's hands to select their sponsors, rather than the traditional mechanism of the sponsor choosing the child.



PAST CHOSEN MOMENTS



HIGHLIGHTS



More than
138,270
70,518 girls and 67,752 boys) were registered children.



99%
Sponsor retention achieved, increasing sponsor and children's engagements.



5
New area programmes were established in West Nile and Karamoja.



97%
of registered children reported that sponsorship provides a life-enriching experience for children, families and communities.





FAITH & DEVELOPMENT

Supported SDGs



As a Christian relief, development and advocacy organisation, we understand the power of faith in the lives of children, adults and communities. Believing that God works through all people, we collaborate and mobilise people who share common values of compassion, love and mercy, responding to the needs of children and communities that are most vulnerable.



OUR WORK

In 2021, we collaborated with faith leaders to address inherent community problems. The major problems were, gender inequity, stigma, gender-based violence, and harmful practices such as child marriage and corporal punishment.

We signed Memoranda of Understanding with Scripture Union and Kitgum Diocese of the Church of Uganda to support children become aware of God and enjoy positive relationships with peers, family and community members. We collaborated to see children value and care for others and the environment and have hope for the future.

We adopted proven approaches such as Channels of Hope (CoH), Celebrating Families and Empowered Worldview, reaching more than 1,500 faith leaders and over 124,000 parents/caregivers to promote positive norms and practices.

Following the closure of schools due to the COVID-19 pandemic, World Vision worked with faith leaders and community volunteers to disseminate preventive messaging and provide spiritual and psychosocial support to children and their families. We reached more than 42,000 children ensuring they remained safe in their communities.



We reached more than 1,500 faith leaders and over 124,000 parents/caregivers to promote positive norms and practices.

HIGHLIGHTS



More than
124,000

Parents demonstrated increased knowledge of positive discipline and other child protection related issues.



More than
2,000

Community Hope Action Teams (CHATs) promoted positive norms and practices in the communities, serving 30,883 boys and girls.



741

Primary school teachers were trained through MoU with Scripture Union and equipped in the WV Dare to Discover approach.



More than
43,000

Boys and girls participated in spiritual nurture initiatives.



More than
1,000

Faith leaders actively promoted positive norms and practices, including helping their communities to protect from COVID-19.



MoU with Kitgum Diocese (Church of Uganda) focused on improving the wellbeing of children in education, child protection and child spiritual nurture.

FAITH LEADERS: A STRONG FORCE TO STRENGTHEN CHILD PROTECTION SYSTEMS

With support from the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (BPRM), World Vision worked with boys to promote gender equality and end violence against women and girls through the Male Care Campaign.

Faith leaders like Wilson Agele of Community Hope Action Team in Bidibidi refugee settlement, West Nile, play a vital role in community development, especially when children are at a heightened risk due to the COVID-19 pandemic. People look at them as their source of hope and comfort during crises.

"I use Bible lessons to create behaviour change in my community. I also help children to know their rights and responsibilities. I encourage meaningful child participation," says Wilson.

Involving faith leaders in the project implementation has changed community attitudes towards unacceptable behaviour. It is believed in some cultures that a girl should be married-off the moment she experiences her first period. Others think it is only girls that are supposed to do work at the home. "These are some of the behaviours we continue to challenge during outreaches in communities," says Wilson.

Swaib Juruga is another leader of the Islamic faith. Like Wilson, he says integrating faith leaders into child protection has strengthened child protection systems in his community. "I have noticed a behavioural change among parents. Before, we used corporal punishment, but all that has stopped. We now listen more to children and use positive discipline to correct wrongs," says Swaib.

World Vision trained 49 Christian and Muslim faith leaders from Bidibidi refugee settlement and the surrounding host communities to end violence against children.

"Faith leaders are respected figures in our communities and can influence and cause the much-needed change," says Job Auruke, Child Protection Coordinator, at World Vision Uganda.

Working with 250 Community Hope Action teams, World Vision reached more than 6,900 people in Bidibidi Refugee Settlement and host communities with child protection messages.

As World Vision stays on the course to end all forms of violence against children, the involvement of faith leaders creates a bigger platform to influence behaviour change toward the well-being of children.





ADVOCACY



Supported SDGs



Our Advocacy Programme aims to mobilise, amplify and harness voices – especially those of children to overcome inequality, challenge harmful behaviours and call for justice for children. In FY21, we consolidated our actions through our global campaign; It Takes A World to End Violence Against Children.

OUR WORK

We advocated for and influenced policy changes for child well-being through strengthening staff and partners' capabilities in policy advocacy, including budget advocacy, increased collaboration and networking with like-minded institutions. We built evidence through the utilisation of citizen-generated data, research and documentation.

The results have been far-reaching. At a national level, we successfully lobbied and influenced the passing of the Prevention and Prohibition of Human Sacrifice Act, 2021, a law that criminalises acts of human sacrifice with strong punitive measures.

At the district level, we worked with local communities and children's parliaments to influence the passing of ordinances on child well-being and protection by eight Local Governments.

In Oyam, community members successfully used our Citizen and Voice Action (CVA) approach raising UGX1.8 billion (US\$ 486,000) from the district local government and the Ministry of Health to improve Kamdini Health Centre II to level III.

In Bugiri district, the CVA team in Nabukalu Area Programme advocated for and attracted UGX 36m (US\$ 9,700) that facilitated the construction works at Nkaiza Health Centre, including a waiting area for patients and upgrading of the water drainage system.

In response to COVID-19 and its associated restrictions, World Vision leveraged virtual spaces to influence minds and hearts on child protection issues. Our activities ranged from it takes a world campaign tweet chats that reached over 15m people to a virtual inter-university debate festival that attracted 22 universities.

As we emerged from one of the world's most prolonged school closures, we remained committed to our core mission of ensuring that all children, regardless of their station in life, get to live life in its fullness.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Successfully lobbied and influenced the passing of the Prevention and Prohibition of Human Sacrifice Act, 2021.
- Worked with partners to influence the passing of the National Health Insurance Bill and Sexual Offences Bill 2020, awaiting presidential assent.
- Supported local communities and Children's Parliaments in eight districts to successfully lobby for local government ordinances on child abuse and child marriage.
- Reached over 15m people through media and social media engagements.
- Organised a virtual university debate festival on ending violence against children that attracted over 22 universities.
- Published a COVID19 Budget Responsiveness Study that highlighted critical funding gaps to mitigate the effects of COVID-19 on children.

Partnerships

As World Vision aspires to deepen its impact, partnering is core to our work. We seek to collaborate and advocate for broader impact. With nearly 35 years' experience working in Ugandan communities, we have built strong partnerships with local government authorities, corporates and organisations, partner NGOs, and the communities in which we work.

World Vision wishes to acknowledge and express appreciation to our partners listed below for their continued commitment to improve the lives of Uganda's most vulnerable children.





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