

EAST ASIA

ANNUAL SNAPSHOT

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TACKLING INEQUALITY AND CHILD VULNERABILITY IN EAST ASIA

East Asia demonstrates significantly higher child vulnerability than the global average, according to the Multidimensional Child Vulnerability Index, a composite measure of threats faced by children around the world.

On the other hand, China, Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, and North Korea face the highest environmental exposure levels in East Asia. These disparities have a profound impact on children. Poverty, migration, malnutrition, limited education, climate change, and weak protection systems intersect to create high vulnerability for millions of children in the region.

WORLD VISION'S IMPACT ACROSS THE REGION

In the face of these challenges, World Vision has stood alongside the people of East Asia since 1950, building trust, deepening local partnerships, and tailoring its programs to meet the evolving needs of communities across Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Mongolia, Myanmar, North Korea, Thailand, and Vietnam.

In 2024, our commitment translated into transformational outcomes for over 5.4 million vulnerable children and families. Our multi-sectoral approach, led by a workforce that is more than 99% regional, ensures that our solutions are both locally owned and globally informed.

From improving access to quality education and healthcare to enhancing child protection systems and strengthening climate resilience, our integrated interventions address not only the symptoms of poverty but also its root causes. We place children at the center, working to ensure they grow up safe, educated, and hopeful.

Advocacy remains a cornerstone of our strategy. In 2024 alone, World Vision contributed to 189 policy changes across East Asia, shaping national dialogues and securing or defending government budgets that directly address our global campaign priorities. These successes reflect our collaborative work with governments, civil society, and international partners to amplify children's voices and drive systemic change.

As we look ahead, our focus remains clear: to build a more just, resilient, and inclusive East Asia, where every child has the opportunity not just to survive, but to thrive.



**LAST YEAR,
OUR PROGRAMMES IN
EAST ASIA REACHED**

5,414,672

PEOPLE

including

2,407,270

CHILDREN



1,229,057 girls



1,178,213 boys

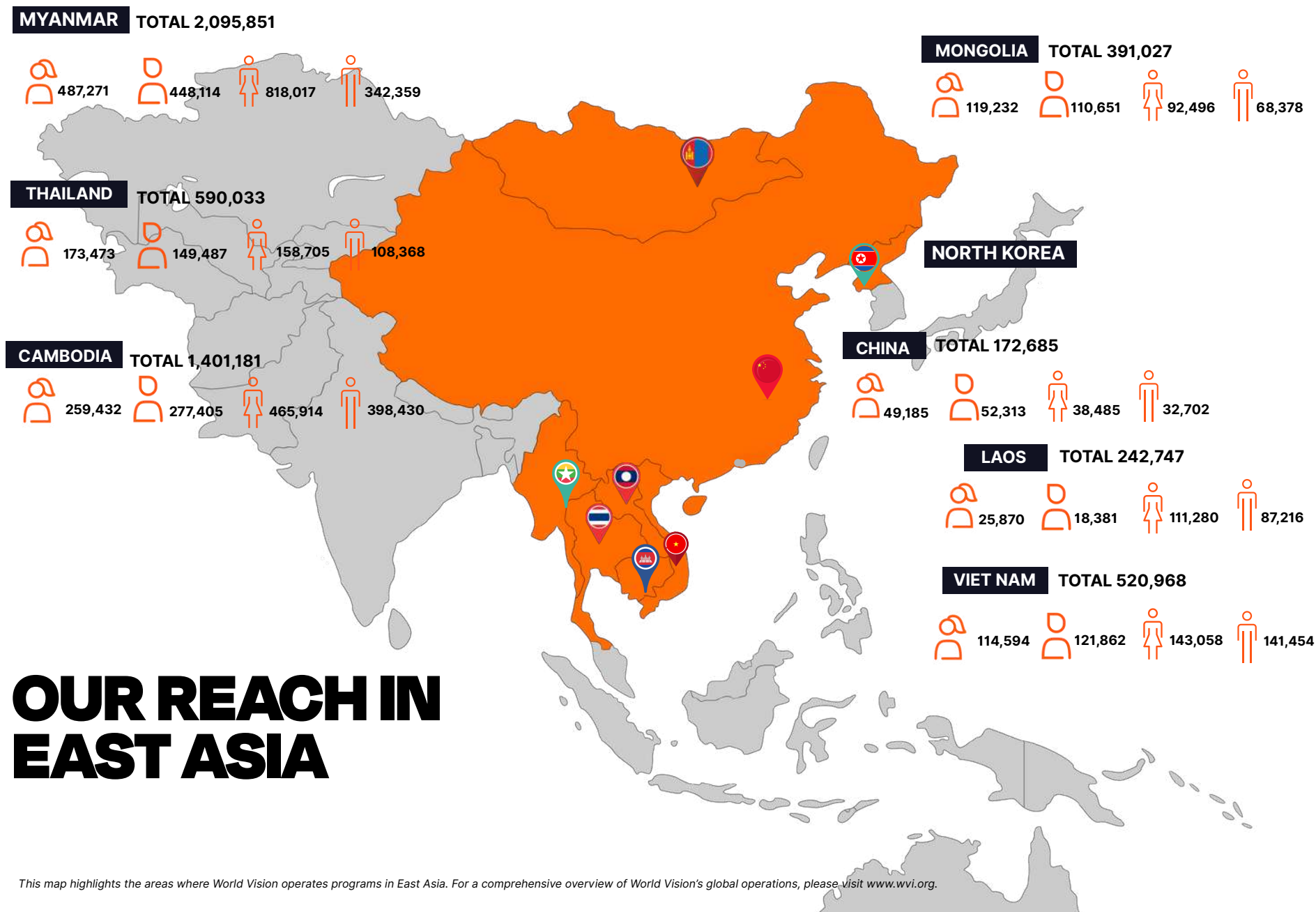


1,828,496 women



1,178,907 men

Across all offices where we operate in the East Asia region, our work is grounded in long-term collaboration with national and local governments through formal MOUs with key ministries. Our programs are designed to strengthen national development plans, aligning with government priorities in health, education, and child protection to deliver lasting, systemic impact.



This map highlights the areas where World Vision operates programs in East Asia. For a comprehensive overview of World Vision's global operations, please visit www.wvi.org.

OUR CONTRIBUTION TO SDGs



CHILDREN ARE AT THE CENTER OF EVERYTHING WE DO

Building Resilient Futures
for Children in East Asia

SURVIVE

WASH

HEALTH & NUTRITION

HUMANITARIAN
RESPONSE

EDUCATION

CHILD
PROTECTION

CHILD & YOUTH
PARTICIPATION

LEARN

THRIVE

LIVELIHOOD

CLIMATE
RESILIENCE

MIGRATION

GEDSI

Advocacy, Research & Evidence, and Systems Strengthening





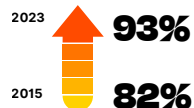
We help children

SURVIVE

today, with safety, health, and dignity.

WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE (WASH)

Despite East Asia's progress in water and sanitation access,



24 million children
still lack safe drinking water
(Joint Monitoring Program, 2023).

World Vision delivers integrated WASH solutions that address inequality, climate vulnerability, and long-term sustainability. We construct and rehabilitate water systems, including boreholes, gravity-fed systems, and rainwater harvesting systems, while embedding Gender Equality, Disability, and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) principles to ensure access for all, including support for menstrual hygiene. Local communities are equipped to manage and sustain WASH facilities, with behaviour change campaigns, often led by faith leaders, promoting handwashing, safe water use, and sanitation. This holistic approach builds resilience, dignity, and lasting impact in the region's most vulnerable communities.

WASH: COUNTRY LEVEL IMPACT

We Are Water Foundation Partnership – China & Mongolia

In partnership with We Are Water Foundation, World Vision advanced school-based WASH initiatives in China and Mongolia, improving access to safe drinking water, gender-sensitive sanitation, and hygiene education. This collaboration empowered schools in vulnerable communities to adopt sustainable WASH practices, rehabilitating water systems, building inclusive toilets, and fostering healthy habits. The initiative not only reduced health risks but also improved school attendance and protected the dignity of girls and children with special needs.

Procter & Gamble Partnership – Cambodia & Myanmar

World Vision's ongoing partnership with Procter & Gamble expanded access to clean water for over 350,000 people in Cambodia and Myanmar, using innovative P&G water purification packets. Through a combined effort of hygiene education and local water system strengthening, the project helped reduce waterborne diseases, improve child health, and build resilience in remote and conflict-affected communities, proving the power of technology and community engagement to deliver safe water at scale.

National Recognition for WASH Leadership – Cambodia

World Vision Cambodia was nationally recognized for its leadership in rural water access and progress toward achieving open defecation-free (ODF) status, receiving the highest medal from the Ministry of Rural Development and with 125 community piped water systems reaching 329 villages, the program combined CLTS, inclusive sanitation financing, and strong government partnerships to drive lasting, system-wide change in rural sanitation and hygiene.

Gravity-Fed Water System – Viet Nam

In the remote Ta Phin commune of Viet Nam, World Vision transformed lives through a gravity-fed water system, providing clean water directly to H'mong households. Once burdened with hours-long treks to fetch unsafe water, families now enjoy tap access at home, reduced illness, and improved school attendance. Local water committees and hygiene training initiatives ensure a long-term impact, freeing up time for livelihoods and learning.



316,074 people reached
through WASH Projects.

 **101,267**

 **91,523**

 **62,270**

 **61,014**

A young boy and girl are smiling and washing their hands at a public water station. The boy is in the foreground, wearing a dark jacket, and the girl is behind him, wearing a pink sweater. They are both looking towards the camera. The background shows a concrete wall with a white pipe and some foliage.

201,733

People have access to improved sanitation.

316,074

have access to improved hygiene and behaviour change.

153,724

people have access to improved water.

67%

of households are using basic drinking water services.

59%

of households with at least one member with a disability are using basic drinking water services.

HEALTH & NUTRITION

While the East Asia region has made measurable gains in reducing child malnutrition, millions of children remain at risk.

A triple burden*

Undernutrition

2.9 million children stunted

Acute malnutrition

0.9 million children wasted

A rapid surge in
overweight and obesity

80 million children aged 5-19

These overlapping crises, driven by poverty, poor feeding practices, and rapid dietary shifts, threaten children's survival, development, and long-term well-being.

World Vision combats child malnutrition in East Asia through integrated, community-driven health and nutrition strategies. By training Community Health Workers and empowering families, especially grandmothers, we strengthen local systems and promote lasting behavior change. Proven models, such as Positive Deviance/Hearth (PDH), Community-Based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM), Community Health Worker (CHW), and Growth Monitoring and Promotion (GMP), enable the early detection, treatment, and prevention of undernutrition. These interventions are adaptable, inclusive, and focused on breaking the cycle of vulnerability, ensuring that children not only survive but also thrive. According to Annual Impact Measurement 2025, 82% of infant births were attended by a skilled health attendant. (Measured in Laos & Myanmar).

HEALTH & NUTRITION : COUNTRY LEVEL IMPACT

Cambodia – Food and Nutrition Security in Banteay Meanchey

Through the IFNSR project funded by BMZ Germany, World Vision Cambodia is strengthening food and nutrition security for vulnerable farming households in Banteay Meanchey Province. By integrating agriculture, nutrition education, and resilience-building, the initiative equips families with the tools to sustainably improve child health, dietary diversity, and household livelihoods.

Laos – SUAN Project: Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture for Community Resilience

With AUD 3.7 million funding from DFAT Australia, World Vision Laos launched the SUAN project to promote Nutrition-Sensitive Climate-Smart Agriculture (NS-CSA) in three districts of Salavan Province. In partnership with local authorities, the initiative aims to improve nutrition, food security, and climate resilience for over 8,000 people, particularly women, children, and people with disabilities, while supporting national strategies for sustainable development.

Myanmar – Alternative Recipes to Combat Malnutrition

In collaboration with UNICEF, World Vision Myanmar is piloting an Alternative Recipes Program that utilizes affordable, locally available ingredients, such as peanuts and jaggery, to support children with acute malnutrition. This context-sensitive solution offers nutritious, culturally acceptable alternatives to therapeutic foods, thereby improving child survival in challenging and resource-constrained settings.

541,891 people reached
through Health & Nutrition Projects.



68,744



69,623



260,681



142,843

*Source: Level and Trends in Child Malnutrition. Unicef/WHO/World Bank Group. 2025

EMPOWERING PREPAREDNESS THROUGH REGIONAL COLLABORATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING

As part of our disaster preparedness strategy, World Vision has enhanced the disaster management skills of over 200 staff across East Asia, enabling more effective responses to escalating climate-related risks faced by vulnerable communities.

Strengthening regional collaboration, World Vision actively participates in the ASEAN ACE Programme, advancing Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) priorities. We also support key ASEAN initiatives such as the ASEAN Standards and Certification for Experts in Disaster Management (ASCEND) and the upcoming 2024 Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR). Through partnerships with the Asia Pacific Coalition for School Safety (APCSS) and the Major Group for Children and Youth (MGCY), we champion child-led research to ensure youth perspectives shape future disaster resilience policies.



HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

In 2024, East Asia experienced a marked increase in climate-related hazards driven by climate change, including floods, cyclones, droughts, earthquakes, and severe winter weather (dzud). These disasters caused significant harm to millions of vulnerable people across the region, particularly children and families.

On 7 September 2024, Typhoon YAGI made landfall in northern Viet Nam, causing widespread devastation across Southeast Asia, particularly impacting Viet Nam, Myanmar, Laos, and Thailand. The storm has claimed over 500 lives, injured thousands, left hundreds of thousands displaced, and caused tremendous damage to infrastructure, homes, schools, and healthcare facilities. At least 6 million children across Viet Nam, Myanmar, Laos, and Thailand have been affected in the wake of Typhoon YAGI, and their access to clean water, education, health services, food, and shelter has been compromised.

In Northwest China's Gansu province, a 6.2-magnitude earthquake struck, resulting in 151 deaths and 781 injuries. This tragedy further compounded the region's humanitarian needs.

Throughout 2024, World Vision responded to eleven disasters and protracted crises across seven countries: Vietnam, China, Myanmar, Mongolia, Laos, Cambodia, and Thailand. Our emergency response efforts reached over 1.8 million people, including 921,096 children. These responses addressed a range of emergencies, such as typhoons, earthquakes, floods, and dzud.

Our work in 2024 focused on delivering critical lifesaving aid, protecting vulnerable children and communities, and supporting recovery efforts to help communities rebuild and strengthen their resilience against future disasters.



OUR EMERGENCY IMPACT IN EAST ASIA

Country and Disaster Severity

Response Name	Total Reach	Girls	Boys	Women	Men	Girls with Disability	Boys with Disability	Women with Disability	Men with Disability
Viet Nam Typhoon Yagi Response Sept 2024	8,034	1,940	1,753	2,254	2,087	-	-	-	-
Northwest China Earthquake Response 2023	4,106	2,034	2,072	-	-	-	-	-	-
North China Flood Response 2023	35,415	1,988	1,979	15,758	15,690	-	-	-	-
Myanmar Crisis Response	1,359,536	349,383	319,724	514,023	176,406	439	544	171	168
Mongolia Dzud Response 2024	51,515	13,542	12,151	13,009	12,813	221	233	672	782
Laos Typhoon Yagi Response Sept 2024	16,664	1,986	1,856	6,958	5,864	8	4	14	36
Laos Flood Response 2023	6,109	814	737	2,659	1,899	4	0	120	27
Cambodia Floods Response 2023	7,850	1,769	1,659	2,535	1,887	-	-	-	-
Cambodia Drought Response 2024	374,623	98,001	109,169	81,818	88,635	53	33	166	180
Thailand Flood Response 2024	assessment process								
Myanmar Typhoon Yagi Response 2024	390	28	21	200	141	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1,864,242	471,485	448,121	639,214	305,422	725	814	1143	1193

1,864,242 People reached	7 countries	11 total responses	
471,485 Girls	448,121 Boys	Emergency Response 1,225,652 people reached	CVP 12,898 people reached
725 Girls with Disability	814 Boys with Disability	WASH 410,275 people reached	Livelihood 1,667 people reached
639,214 Women	305,422 Men	Child Protection 110,688 people reached	Health & Nutrition 1,392 people reached
1K Women with Disability	1K Men with Disability	Food Security 103,266 people reached	DRR & Climate Change 205,448 people reached

A young girl with dark hair tied back, wearing a white short-sleeved button-down shirt and a bright pink backpack, is smiling broadly. She is standing in front of a large, multi-story school building with a colorful mural on its facade. The background is slightly blurred, emphasizing the girl in the foreground.

We help children

LEARN

for tomorrow, with education, protection, and opportunity.

EDUCATION

Across the Asia region, World Vision is addressing the foundational learning crisis by ensuring that every child, especially the most vulnerable, has access to inclusive, equitable, and quality education. In a context where conflict, poverty, displacement, and systemic gaps hinder learning outcomes, World Vision's early childhood and basic education programs equip children with literacy, life skills, and emotional support critical for lifelong success.

From Cambodia's school feeding programs to China's early childhood development initiatives, and from Myanmar's flexible learning spaces to Thailand's support for early learners, our interventions are locally adapted, child-centered, and system-strengthening. With a focus on caregivers, community engagement, and teacher capacity, we are driving transformative change in how children access, experience, and benefit from education, especially in underserved and rural areas.

EDUCATION: COUNTRY LEVEL IMPACT

World Vision's education programming across Asia prioritizes equitable access, foundational literacy, and early childhood development to ensure no child is left behind.

- In **Cambodia**, 197,211 children participated in inclusive education initiatives, with 14,378 previously out-of-school children reintegrated through interventions such as school feeding, teacher training, and reading camps. According to the Annual Impact Measurement (AIM) 2025, 53% of Grade 3 children achieved a proficiency level of at least the minimum standard in reading.
- In **China**, early childhood development was strengthened through initiatives such as Go Baby Go and Learning Roots, resulting in a significant increase in responsive caregiving from 17.1% to 65.1%.
- In **Myanmar**, alternative learning models, such as playgroups, homeschooling, and 233 reading clubs, enabled 24,190 children to continue their education despite access challenges. 77% of children in Myanmar are attending a structured learning institution, according to AIM 2025.
- Meanwhile, in **Thailand**, capacity building for teachers and the provision of learning resources supported 61,334 young learners across schools, early childhood centers, and libraries. Together, these country programs reflect a region-wide commitment to building strong learning foundations and transforming education systems for the most vulnerable.
- World Vision **Mongolia** has revitalized school libraries and launched reading clubs to cultivate a vibrant reading culture among students. By enhancing access to diverse learning materials and encouraging active academic participation, these initiatives are strengthening educational outcomes and inspiring lifelong learning habits in communities.



457,927

people reached
through Education projects.



144,303



146,703



103,885



63,036

CHILD PROTECTION & PARTICIPATION

6 in 10

children experience violence before age 18, often in their own homes or institutions.

120,000

people in Myanmar, including children, have been trafficked into scam operations.

Child protection in East Asia is at a critical tipping point. Sexual violence, child marriage, and trafficking are widespread, deeply rooted in harmful norms and systemic gaps. Rising online abuse, cybersex trafficking, and exploitation of migrant and disabled children underscore the urgent need for stronger, more responsive protection systems. In Thailand, victims include migrants from Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam, including minors, and trafficking occurs in the fishing, factory labor, and sex industry. Conflict, climate shocks, and displacement are compounding vulnerabilities, especially for girls, children with disabilities, and those living in poverty. Without targeted, cross-sectoral interventions grounded in gender equity, digital safety, and humanitarian access, millions of children will remain trapped in cycles of violence and neglect.

CHILD PROTECTION: COUNTRY LEVEL IMPACT

China – Safe to Learn

From 2021 to 2024, World Vision China's Safe to Learn project reached over 12,000 children and educators across Shaanxi and Jiangxi, addressing school bullying through teacher training, child-friendly reporting systems, and student-led dialogue, ensuring safer and more inclusive learning environments.

Thailand – Community-Led Child Protection

In Sisaket's Sirattana District, where 70% of children lack parental care, World Vision Thailand supports schools and local authorities to reduce violence and risky behavior through drug prevention programs and the Ending All Forms of Violence campaign, building safer homes and schools.

Mongolia – Building Protective Environments

World Vision Mongolia strengthened child protection through parenting programs for 10,000+ caregivers, national anti-bullying campaigns, and legal training. Through home visits, faith engagement, and school-based safety initiatives, these efforts drive systemic change in collaboration with the government. According to AIM 2025 in Mongolia, 48% of adolescents believe they have successfully influenced decisions that impact their lives.

1,441,488 people reached through Child Protection projects.



72%

of adolescents reported having a strong connection with their parents or caregivers.*

*Source: World Vision's Annual Impact Measurement conducted in 2025 in Mongolia, Myanmar and Thailand.



CHILD PROTECTION & PARTICIPATION

Across East Asia, children and youth are emerging as powerful agents of change. From Cambodia to Mongolia, we are witnessing a growing momentum to embed child and youth participation in development, governance, and climate action. Yet challenges, such as conflict, digital inequality, disability, and lack of legal identity, continue to limit inclusion for the most vulnerable.

World Vision East Asia is helping reshape this landscape through strategic investments in child-led platforms and regional engagement.

Empowering Young Leaders through Young Minds CAMP (Child-led Actions, Mobilization and Partnerships)

Young Minds CAMP is a pioneering

7 months
Leadership program

equipping 17
children & youth leaders

from 6
countries

with tools in advocacy, communications, and child-led research. These youth co-developed a shared climate action agenda, directly engaging with the UN and regional actors.

Regional Child-Led Research on Climate & DRR

A key outcome of this initiative was the regional child-led study, Young Minds Shaping Climate Action & Disaster Mitigation for a Sustainable Future, conducted in partnership with APCSS and UNMGCY. This research amplified the voices of 2,735 children and youth across the Asia-Pacific region, shaping evidence-based advocacy around climate and disaster resilience.

Partnership with ASEAN Children's Forum (ACF)

At the 8th ASEAN Children's Forum, co-organized by World Vision in Vientiane, child delegates from 10 ASEAN countries led dialogues with senior leaders. A child advocate from Laos, See, highlighted how climate change impacts food security and nutrition, placing children's lived experiences at the center of policy conversations.

Reimagining Child Participation: A new framework to advance integrated action for meaningful and inclusive child participation

To sustain impact, World Vision launched a new framework for meaningful and inclusive child participation, offering actionable strategies to remove systemic barriers and embed children's voices across development sectors.



We help children

THRIVE

for life, with resilience, inclusion, and hope.



LIVELIHOODS

World Vision's livelihoods programs in East Asia adopt a holistic and inclusive approach to economic empowerment, especially for women, by expanding access to secure, profitable, and climate-resilient income opportunities. Through integrated interventions, including microfinance, savings groups, financial literacy, and climate-smart agriculture, families are equipped not only to survive but also to thrive.

LIVELIHOOD COUNTRY LEVEL IMPACT

- **Cambodia:** 4.7 tons of locally processed fish (dried, smoked, and steamed) were successfully exported to Australia, marking a milestone in market access. Additionally, 81% of producer groups now sell their agricultural products through cooperatives, enhancing income stability and scale.
- **Mongolia:** Over 370 low-income households have graduated from poverty through access to productive assets and business training, resulting in a 29% increase in monthly incomes. Livelihoods ranged from handicrafts and sewing to greenhouse farming and food production.
- **Myanmar:** 2,896 Savings for Transformation (S4T) groups were established, engaging 37,387 members and managing over USD 1.6 million in collective savings, which directly benefited 28,000 children by strengthening household resilience.
- **Thailand:** 79.35% of households now report having the capacity to save, signaling a substantial shift toward financial security and long-term planning.
- **Vietnam:** Improved financial assistance, productivity, and family resources contributed to better well-being for 211,417 children, showcasing the transformative power of livelihoods on child outcomes.

507,880 people reached
through Livelihood projects.



66%

households that provide well for children according to the Annual Impact Measurement done in five countries: Laos, Mongolia, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam.

25%

households increased their income as a result of participation in World Vision facilitated economic development programs (measured in Cambodia, Mongolia, Myanmar & Vietnam) .



FOOD SECURITY

Despite economic growth, East and Southeast Asia face a deepening food insecurity crisis, particularly for vulnerable children.

Over 105 million people experience moderate to severe food insecurity

17.2 million at severe levels, an increase since 2021

Nearly 17 million children in the East Asia & Pacific region suffer from severe food poverty

The escalating impact of climate shocks, from extreme heat to flooding, coupled with environmental degradation, is eroding food quality, diversity, and availability. Without urgent action, poor diets will continue to drive child malnutrition and deepen food poverty across the region.

FOOD SECURITY: COUNTRY LEVEL IMPACT

Cambodia – Building Climate-Resilient Nutrition Systems

The IFNSR Project, funded by the BMZ and led by World Vision Cambodia, in partnership with Wathnakpheap and Sovann Phoum, is transforming the lives of 900 vulnerable farming households in Banteay Meanchey. By promoting climate-smart agriculture, nutrition education, and disaster preparedness, the project enhances food security, improves child nutrition, and fosters long-term resilience.

Thailand – Scaling Household Resilience

World Vision Thailand has empowered over 24,500 individuals, including 13,000 parents and caregivers, through integrated food security interventions. Through livelihood training, financial literacy, and sustainable agriculture, families are building economic resilience and laying the groundwork for thriving communities.

Myanmar – Mobilizing Faith and Action Against Hunger

Through the ENOUGH campaign, World Vision partnered with 250 faith leaders to spotlight food insecurity and reach over 1.1 million people. Direct support, such as livestock and vaccinations, reached 7,358 households, enhancing financial stability and food access.

143,627 people reached through Food Security Projects.



17,890



17,875



58,998



48,864



DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (DRR) & CLIMATE CHANGE

East Asia has remained one of the world's disaster-hit regions from weather, climate, and water-related hazards*. In 2024, East Asia experienced record-breaking heat in countries such as Myanmar (48.2°C), Vietnam (44.2°C), and Cambodia (42.8°C), along with increasing threats from typhoons, erratic rainfall, and saltwater intrusion. Over 1.5 million children were affected by Typhoon Yagi alone, highlighting growing risks to food security, health, education, livelihoods, and basic infrastructure. Children under 18 remain critically exposed to hazards, shocks, and stresses across most of East Asia, underscoring weak disaster preparedness systems.*

World Vision is driving climate resilience by empowering children and communities with a better understanding of climate issues and providing practical solutions like regeneration of degraded lands, promoting climate-smart agriculture, access to clean energy, and waste management efforts across countries in Mongolia, Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, China, Myanmar, and Laos.

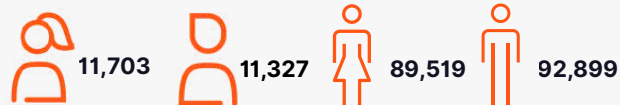
DRR & CLIMATE CHANGE: COUNTRY LEVEL IMPACT

In **Cambodia**, about 9,900 hectares of degraded land are being restored through Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) and climate-smart agriculture (CSA), thereby strengthening livelihoods, restoring ecosystems, promoting opportunities of permaculture, sustainable forest products, and eco-tourism, which directly impact 7,650 people.

World Vision **Vietnam** is driving transformative change in communities by implementing solar-powered schools and rural lighting systems that enhance safety, improve educational environments, and reduce carbon emissions. World Vision has also implemented a fuel-efficient cookstove program in Vietnam, reaching more than 3,000 households. This initiative not only curbs deforestation but also creates safer, healthier cooking conditions, facilitates women's empowerment, reduces indoor air pollution with low emissions, and lowers health risks.

In **Thailand**, an innovative waste management initiative was implemented in five villages, diverting household waste from landfills through the use of low-emission incinerators and biogas digesters. The project, benefiting over 2,600 people, converts biodegradable waste into cooking fuel for schools and households, while recycling plastics and utilizing slurry as fertilizer, thereby reducing methane emissions and improving public health.

205,448 people reached through DRR & Climate Change Projects.



42% households reported having alternative and risk diversified sources of income. (AIM 2025, measured in Cambodia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Thailand & Vietnam).

*Source: Multidimensional Child Vulnerability Index (MCVI) Report, World Vision East Asia, 2025.



SAFE MIGRATION IN EAST ASIA

In 2020, an estimated 18 million migrants were on the move across Southeast and East Asia, including 1.27 million children. Migration, often driven by poverty, climate shocks, and economic inequality, places children at heightened risk of exploitation, disrupted education, and emotional distress due to family separation.

World Vision East Asia adopts a child-focused, safe migration approach, ensuring that migration is secure, orderly, and dignified, particularly for vulnerable children and families. Our programming safeguards their rights and well-being before, during, and after migration, while contributing to community resilience and social cohesion. Key interventions include:

Child Friendly Spaces: Safe environments offering play, learning, and psychosocial support for children affected by displacement.

IMPACT+ Migration Module: Empowering adolescents with life skills, safe migration awareness, and goal setting to reduce migration-related risks.

Climate Migration Programming: Based on our 2024 study with SEI Asia, we address climate-induced migration across Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Vietnam by supporting adaptive livelihoods, mental health, and youth resilience.

World Vision Thailand's programme on human mobility and safe migration is dedicated to addressing the needs of the most vulnerable migrant populations in Thailand, focusing on three strategic priorities: migrant health, human trafficking, decent work, and women and children affected by migration. In 2024, the interventions have reached over 128,000 adults and 11,000 migrant children.

146,223 people reached
through Safe Migration programs.



8,818



8,608



71,430



57,367



GENDER EQUALITY, DISABILITY, AND SOCIAL INCLUSION (GEDSI)

Despite commitments under SDG 5, gender equality progress in Asia remains uneven, hindered by wage gaps, limited labor participation, and a lack of reliable data on violence, harmful practices, and unpaid care work. Children with disabilities, particularly girls, face compounding discrimination, restricting access to education, healthcare, and protection. Intersectional barriers, across gender, disability, and ethnicity, remain deeply rooted, especially in disaster-prone and climate-vulnerable regions.

World Vision embeds Gender Equality, Disability, and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) across all sectors, including education, health, WASH, livelihoods, and disaster risk reduction, to ensure inclusive impact at every level. Working with communities and partners, World Vision empowers girls and boys to build confidence, skills, and strong relationships, enabling them to thrive and succeed. We create safe, supportive environments where the most vulnerable, especially girls, can participate, lead, and shape their futures. We engage men and boys to challenge harmful gender norms and promote respectful, equal relationships. This includes shared caregiving, nonviolence, and ending practices like child marriage. We also support marginalized groups, particularly women, girls, and people with disabilities, in gaining control over their income and resources through training, financial literacy, and inclusive market access, ensuring inclusive economic empowerment.

GEDSI: COUNTRY LEVEL IMPACT

World Vision **Vietnam's** THRIVE project advances gender equality by integrating gender-sensitive market research, training women-led producer groups in climate-smart agriculture, inclusive leadership, and e-commerce, thereby enhancing women's economic empowerment and market access. In **Laos**, the SUAN project strengthens maternal and child nutrition through local nutrition groups and community-led behavior change, while promoting disability inclusion via training for government officials and grassroots mobilization.

In **Thailand**, World Vision, in partnership with the Global Fund through the RRTTPR project, addresses gender and human rights barriers in healthcare by reducing stigma and improving access to TB and HIV services among key populations. In **China**, the Brighter Future for Children with Disabilities project promotes inclusion through youth empowerment, life skills development, and community engagement, ensuring that children with disabilities have a voice and a place in society.



GENDER EQUALITY, DISABILITY, AND SOCIAL INCLUSION (GEDSI)

GEDSI Impact Data

70%

community members (adults) support gender equitable attitudes and the percentage is 64% among households that have at least one member with a disability.

94%

proportion households with women actively engaged in decision making.

(Measured in Cambodia, Mongolia & Vietnam)

72%

of adolescents supporting gender equitable attitudes, and of the households with disability.

(Measured in Cambodia, Myanmar, Thailand & Vietnam)

31%

households that have at least one member with a disability have alternative and risk diversified sources of income.

(Cambodia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam)

***Source: World Vision's Annual Impact Measurement, collected March 2025.**



EMPOWERING LOCAL COMMUNITIES TO ADVOCATE

World Vision firmly believes that a key driver of sustainability is uplifting and empowering local communities to advocate for the rights and services to which they are entitled. This equips communities to keep pushing for the necessary changes and improvements in child well-being even when World Vision is no longer present in the community.



189

policy changes tackling the underlying causes of vulnerability among children.



33 MILLION CHILDREN

benefited from the policy changes.



36 POLICY CHANGES

related to ending child hunger and malnutrition.



81%

programmes supporting communities to advocate.



29 POLICY CHANGES

related to government funding for ending child hunger and malnutrition.



711,395

supporter advocacy actions.



Across Mongolia, CVA groups trained and supported by World Vision are successfully advocating to local authorities for improvements in services and facilities. In Baganuur district, for example, over 250 children and adults worked together to identify risks and hazards around schools in their community. They took the results of their risk assessment to local government, utilising the CVA approach, and successfully held government accountable for renovating passenger crossing areas and installing LED lights, setting up 27 traffic signs, and installing 57 cameras around three community schools. These infrastructure improvements are critical in creating safe learning environments for Mongolian children.

Global Campaign:

ENOUGH

TACKLING CHILD HUNGER & MALNUTRITION IN EAST ASIA

Child hunger and malnutrition in East Asia have reached unprecedented levels in recent generations, with children bearing the most significant burden of a food system disrupted by inequality, climate change, and ongoing conflict.

At World Vision, we recognize that hunger is not an isolated crisis. It is deeply rooted in broader challenges related to food security, child nutrition, education, and overall well-being. Through our global campaign, ENOUGH, we are taking a comprehensive approach to both urgent and long-term hunger, ensuring that every child has consistent access to nutritious food, stays in school, and grows up healthy and resilient.

The campaign brings together national governments, ASEAN, UN bodies, civil society organizations, donors, faith-based communities, and most critically, children and young people themselves. By elevating youth voices in national and regional policy spaces, ENOUGH is driving bold, child-centered solutions to hunger and malnutrition across the region.

ENOUGH CAMPAIGN: COUNTRY LEVEL IMPACT

In **Myanmar**, more than 5,661 children from 1,519 households participated in Nutrition Month activities, which included nutrition education, hygiene promotion, and cooking demonstrations, spanning 121 villages across 12 townships. Additionally, 458 children participated in regional and global advocacy platforms, amplifying their voices on issues related to food security, digital safety, and child protection through the ENOUGH campaign.

In support of the National Nutrition Strategy, World Vision **Viet Nam** launched the ENOUGH initiative in 2024, in partnership with the National Institute of Nutrition, mobilizing over 100 partners, including UN bodies, embassies, corporations, and civil society organizations. This initiative raised national awareness on child nutrition and sparked new cross-sector collaborations to combat malnutrition and promote long-term food security.

In 2024, World Vision **Cambodia** launched the ENOUGH campaign in partnership with the Council for Agriculture and Rural Development, calling for collective action to ensure that every child in Cambodia has enough food. At the launch, 208 formal commitments were secured from the development community, marking a firm national resolve to end child malnutrition.



INNOVATION HIGHLIGHTS

Scaling Sanitation: Community-Driven Floating Latrines

In Cambodia's floating villages, life is lived on water, but the very element that sustains these communities also threatens their health and dignity. The urgency of the situation is evident as communities living on and around Tonle Sap Lake and other waterways in Cambodia face significant physical challenges due to the unique environments of floating villages, flood-prone areas, and marginal riverbanks. Children grow up surrounded by polluted waters, where open defecation is not a choice but a necessity. With only 2% of households having access to basic sanitation, the lake, once a source of life, has become a carrier of disease.

The Innovation: Floating Latrines That Save Lives

At the heart of this project is a simple yet revolutionary idea: HandyPod floating latrines, locally made, affordable, and designed for the unique challenges of life on water. These latrines treat waste safely, without sludge, odor, or mosquitoes. They are built by the community, for the community, with families contributing to their construction, turning recipients into owners. But the innovation goes beyond technology. It's in the model:

- Sanitation Action Groups (SAGs): local champions trained to mobilize neighbors, oversee construction, and promote lasting behavior change.
- School ecosystems powered by solar panels and biogas, where sanitation becomes a source of energy and a platform for learning.
- Sanitation marketing, creating demand, building supply chains, and ensuring sustainability.

Khy Sikhuoch, School director, said, "I am so happy that World Vision provided us with a floating latrine. It's a proper, standard floating latrine that helps prevent water pollution, and it's recyclable. It encourages good hygiene practice for students while defecating. Now, our students no longer have skin rashes."

The Impact: Health, Hope, and a Future for Every Child

This project gives children access to safe sanitation and a healthier future. It will reduce waterborne diseases, improve school attendance, and restore dignity to children and families who've long been denied it.



INNOVATION HIGHLIGHTS



Reinventing the Traditional Ger for a Cleaner Future

In Ulaanbaatar's Ger districts, home to nearly a quarter of Mongolia's population, air pollution has long been a crisis driven by reliance on coal and firewood for heating. But this year, World Vision introduced a transformative solution: energy-efficient Gers that offer warmth without smoke, and sustainability without sacrifice.

Innovation at the Core

This initiative retrofitted 380 traditional Gers with a three-part clean energy package:

- High-performance insulation made from recycled synthetic materials to retain heat.
- Electric heating with thermostatic controls to eliminate coal and firewood use.
- Ventilation and air filtration systems for clean, continuous airflow.

This integrated design reimagines the Ger as a modern, climate-resilient home, cutting daily fossil fuel use and reducing exposure to toxic pollutants, especially critical during Mongolia's -25°C winters.

Tangible Impact

- 1,368 tonnes of coal were voided during the winter months
- 3,000–3,500 tonnes CO₂-equivalent emissions reduced
- Significant drop in respiratory illnesses, especially among children
- Reduced deforestation pressure through lower firewood demand

Residents like Batbayaar report cleaner air and healthier families: *"My children no longer suffer from smoke-related illnesses in winter."*

A Model for Scale

By replacing coal-burning stoves with clean, efficient systems, this innovation delivers health, environmental, and climate benefits. It offers a scalable, community-driven model for tackling air pollution and energy poverty, one that can be replicated across Mongolia's Ger districts.

Circular Solutions: Farming Innovation Converts Invasive Snails into Fertilizer

Rural poverty in Myanmar is deepening, with 94% of households living below the international poverty line and agricultural livelihoods under increasing threat from climate change, declining soil quality, and invasive pests. Among the most destructive is the Golden Apple Snail (GAS), a fast-spreading invasive species now identified by 77% of rice farmers as their top pest. In some regions, snail infestation wipes out entire rice nurseries, deepening food insecurity and economic hardship. In response, World Vision is piloting an innovative, community-led solution in Chaungzone Township that reimagines the problem as a resource. The project introduces Myanmar's first use of Golden Apple Snail-based liquid bio-fertilizer, transforming a highly destructive pest into a sustainable agricultural input. Using a simple fermentation process, GAS is converted into a nutrient-rich, organic fertilizer that boosts soil health, reduces chemical use, and improves crop yields.

A Circular, Climate-Smart Solution

This innovation combines:

- Pest control and soil restoration through bio-fertilizer production.
- Women-led snail monitoring and egg removal for community participation.
- New income opportunities via local fertilizer production and sales.
- Data-driven, climate-smart agriculture practices for improved resilience.

By lowering input costs and enhancing yields, especially for smallholder farmers and women, the initiative promotes food and nutrition security while reducing environmental harm from chemical use.

Scalable Impact

This pilot not only reduces GAS damage but also introduces a replicable model for circular agriculture. It offers a low-cost, high-impact alternative to toxic molluscicides, aligning with global goals on poverty reduction, decent work, sustainable agriculture, and climate resilience.

Through innovation rooted in local knowledge, World Vision is transforming an ecological threat into a catalyst for resilience and regeneration, turning pests into progress.



CHILD SPONSORSHIPS IMPACT

From Flooded Roads to Delivery Rooms

Vannak grew up in a remote Cambodian village where roads flooded and food was scarce. Her mother, a farmer, believed fiercely in education, an uncommon stance in a community where girls were expected to marry young. Despite poverty, Vannak was sent to school, and in 2003, she became a sponsored child through World Vision. That sponsorship brought more than school supplies; it brought hope. Letters from her sponsor encouraged her to dream beyond her circumstances. "I wanted to be a midwife," she recalls, "but I didn't think I could be."

Today, Vannak is a midwife at the very health center that once didn't exist. She helps mothers deliver safely, just as she once dreamed. Her journey from a hungry child walking to school without lunch money to a healthcare professional transforming her community is a testament to what's possible when girls are given a chance. "I'm not rich," she says, "but I live comfortably and can send my children to school." Vannak is one of many former sponsored children now leading change in Kampong Leaeng, proving that with support, girls can break cycles of poverty and build futures filled with purpose.



VANNAK

A Sponsored Child's Path to a Future Lawyer

Huang grew up in Guangxi, China, a mountainous region known for its rugged karst landscape. From 2004 to 2010, he was a sponsored child supported by World Vision, an experience that profoundly shaped his life. Through this sponsorship, he received essential living supplies, such as coats and bedding, as well as school materials that enabled him to continue his education. Beyond the material help, what left the most profound impression on him were the activities and companionship provided by World Vision staff, especially the psychological support that helped nurture his confidence and personality during difficult times as a left-behind child.

The sponsorship experience also inspired Mr. Huang's values and dreams. It taught him the importance of caring for vulnerable people, teamwork, and the courage to help others. As a law graduate student, he is dedicated to providing legal aid and community support to those in need, upholding the spirit of compassion and assistance that once helped him. Reflecting on his journey, Mr. Huang fondly remembers his sponsor from Japan, whose encouragement gave him the strength to grow into the young man he is today. He hopes that World Vision continues to brighten the lives of children, allowing them to enjoy a joyful and fulfilling childhood.



HUANG

A young girl with dark hair tied back, wearing a yellow t-shirt, is smiling and looking off to the side while riding a bicycle. The background is a blurred green landscape with trees. A large, semi-transparent orange shape is overlaid on the right side of the image. The text is positioned on the left side, over the green background.

"I am incredibly happy and grateful to receive this lovely bicycle from World Vision. This bicycle is not just a gift, but also a great motivator that helps me attend school diligently every day. I will try my best to study well so that I can make my dream of becoming a doctor come true and help others in the future."

Hà Vy, 11 y.o, Viet Nam

GENERATING EVIDENCE, DRIVING IMPACT

In East Asia, World Vision is leveraging research as a strategic tool to amplify impact, inform programming, and shape policies that put vulnerable children at the center. Our research doesn't just generate data; it drives decisions. By understanding what works, for whom, and in which contexts, we are better equipped to design effective interventions and advocate for systemic change. In 2024, we partnered with academic institutions, government agencies, local and international NGOs, and subject matter experts to conduct over 20 research studies, including both completed and ongoing projects. These collaborations are helping to build a robust body of evidence that not only strengthens our programs but also contributes to regional knowledge and policy influence. By grounding our work in evidence, we are ensuring that children's realities and voices shape the solutions intended for them, advancing a more accountable, impactful, and child-centered approach to development and humanitarian response.

Young Minds Shaping Climate Action & Disaster Mitigation for a Sustainable Future Child-Led Study on the Lived Experiences & Perspectives of Children in East Asia

In 2024, World Vision East Asia empowered 28 young researchers across Cambodia, Laos, Mongolia, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam to lead a child-led study on climate change and disaster impacts. Engaging over 670 children and 59 adults, the research revealed children's experiences with extreme weather, food insecurity, and health challenges. Children expressed anxiety but also optimism, and are actively involved in local environmental actions. The study called for more climate education, disaster preparedness, and support for youth-led initiatives.

Advocates of Change: Asia Pacific Children and Youth's Voices & Perspectives on Climate Action and Disaster Risk Reduction

Building on this, the Advocates of Change initiative amplified the voices of 2,735 children and youth aged 12 to 34 across the Asia Pacific. Through consultations, young people urged governments to integrate climate education into schools, use technology for early warning, and provide funding and mentorship for youth-led resilience projects. They emphasized inclusive participation, especially for marginalized groups.

Transformative Journeys: How World Vision Sponsorship Shaped the Lives of Vulnerable Children in East Asia

World Vision's sponsorship programs in Cambodia, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam continue to transform lives. A 2024 study of 911 former sponsored children showed 82% completed upper secondary education, 22% attained higher education, and 71% are employed or self-employed. Beyond education, many former sponsored children display strong leadership, civic engagement, and delayed early marriage, crediting World Vision's mentorship.

Disaster Risk Reduction Programming in Asia and the Pacific: Results of the Phase II Study

A disaster risk reduction study in Laos and Mongolia highlighted improvements like better evacuation plans and livelihood support, despite ongoing challenges such as limited early warning systems. Collaboration with local governments led to innovative disaster assessment tools and communication strategies, vital for building community resilience.

Climate change, vulnerability and migration: impacts on children and youth in Southeast Asia

A study in Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam examined how climate change and poverty influence youth migration, impacting children's well-being. It urges governments and partners to promote safe, rights-based migration policies that protect and empower vulnerable youth in this climate-vulnerable region.



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the latest research and publications*



Safeguarding and Accountability: Protecting Children, Empowering Communities

World Vision is committed to protecting vulnerable children and communities through strong safeguarding systems and a culture of accountability. Our Child and Adult Safeguarding Policy is implemented globally, with trained staff, designated safeguarding focal points, and survivor-centered reporting and response mechanisms in every office.

We ensure that communities can safely share feedback through accessible channels, including hotlines, help desks, suggestion boxes, community meetings, and digital platforms tailored to local contexts. This feedback informs program decisions and strengthens trust. One hundred percent (100%) of programmes in China, Mongolia, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam have established community feedback and response mechanisms, according to the Safeguarding Update Report 2024.

Aligned with Child and Adult Safeguarding principles and the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS), WVI's Programme Accountability Framework (PAF) ensures that every community-level program adheres to the key commitments: Providing information, consulting with communities, promoting participation, and collecting and acting on feedback & complaints. In 2024, the Digital Accountability Platform was introduced to record and respond to community feedback and complaints efficiently.



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