



20 25

EAST ASIA IMPACT REPORT





IN A CHANGING WORLD, **HOPE CONTINUES TO RISE.**

Over the past year, communities across East Asia have navigated increasing challenges, while continuing to show resilience and resolve. Behind every number are children and families whose stories reflect both the weight of these challenges and the possibility of change.

With the support of many, we have continued to stand alongside the most vulnerable, responding to immediate needs while strengthening the foundations for lasting change. Even amid uncertainty, hope continues to rise.

LETTER FROM REGIONAL LEADER

As we reflect on 2025, we are reminded that behind every number is a child, a family, and a story of resilience. This year, we reached 3.2 million children across East Asia, each one carrying dreams for a better future. More importantly, we strengthened our focus on the most vulnerable, ensuring that nearly 8 in 10 children we reached are those who need us the most. These are not just milestones, but moments of hope made possible through compassion in action.

This year, however, was not without hardship. Communities faced repeated shocks, from the devastating earthquake in Myanmar to the growing strain of climate-related disasters. In the midst of loss and uncertainty, our teams remained present, walking alongside children and families every step of the way. Across 19 emergency responses, we provided life-saving assistance to more than 976,956 people affected by crises. Their courage and the dedication of our teams working in some of the most difficult conditions is a powerful reminder of what it means to serve with dignity and compassion.

At the same time, we saw the quiet but powerful impact of long-term change. Through advocacy, we advanced 206 policy changes, helping shape systems that protect children far beyond our direct programming. These efforts have influenced 34 million children, extending the impact of the 3.2 million children we reached directly. Meanwhile, our faith-based programming continued to grow, strengthening children's well-being, dignity, belonging, and hope.

To our donors and partners, thank you for believing in this mission and for walking this journey with us. And to our teams across the region, your dedication, compassion, and resilience are the heart of everything we do. Because of you, even in the face of adversity, hope continues to rise.

TERRY FERRARI

Regional Leader
World Vision East Asia



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WORLD VISION: A TRUSTED PARTNER FOR CHILDREN

World Vision is a global Christian humanitarian and development organization focused on helping children overcome poverty and experience life in all its fullness. Across East Asia, our work has been shaped by decades-long relationships with communities, rooted in trust, sustained presence, and a deep understanding of local needs. Today, we work across eight countries, in both urban and rural settings, to create lasting change for children.

Our community-based model is rooted in sustained engagement, strengthening local leadership, building institutional capacity, and applying evidence-informed programming to drive lasting change. By working closely with local leaders, governments, and trusted partners, we help communities better care for and protect children.



OUR IMPACT IN 2025

5.8 Million Adult & Children Reached (2025)



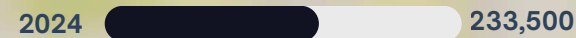
a significant increase from 5.4 million in FY24.

3.2 Million Children Reached (2025)



a significant increase from 2.4 million in FY24.

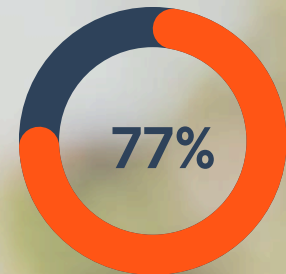
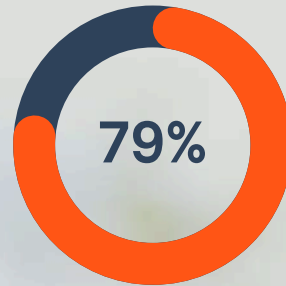
18% Increment in Faith & Development Program Participants



children reached through faith-based program.

976,956 people reached through **19** disaster responses

Most Vulnerable Children (MVC) reached (2025)



Most Vulnerable Children (MVC) reached (2024)

206 Policy Changes benefitting **34 million** children



OUR REACH IN EAST ASIA



	Girls	Boys	Women	Men
MYANMAR	TOTAL 2,235,155			
	617,005	553,067	670,126	394,957
THAILAND	TOTAL 764,719			
	279,480	241,134	149,629	94,476
CAMBODIA	TOTAL 1,268,037			
	283,758	263,885	406,968	313,426
CHINA	TOTAL 271,564			
	97,694	100,204	39,112	34,554
LAOS	TOTAL 378,670			
	145,024	148,306	44,044	41,296
VIET NAM	TOTAL 612,340			
	120,838	125,881	192,130	173,491
MONGOLIA	TOTAL 294,443			
	104,214	97,761	50,126	42,342

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.



CHILDREN ARE AT THE CENTER OF EVERYTHING WE DO

01 SURVIVAL

WASH

HEALTH & NUTRITION

HUMANITARIAN
RESPONSE

02 PROTECTION

CHILD
PROTECTION

MIGRATION

03 DEVELOPMENT

EDUCATION

FOOD SECURITY &
LIVELIHOODS

CLIMATE RESILIENCE

04 PARTICIPATION

CHILD & YOUTH
PARTICIPATION

CROSS-CUTTING: GENDER EQUALITY, DISABILITY, AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

SURVIVAL

Helping children survive today, with health, safety, and dignity.



WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE (WASH)

East Asia's water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) landscape is defined by stark and growing inequalities. While countries such as China and Thailand have experienced rapid economic growth, millions of children across Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Vietnam, and Mongolia still lack access to safely managed water and sanitation. Structural drivers, including climate change, gender inequality, and migration, are accelerating these challenges and demanding a fundamentally different response. In this context, World Vision is delivering integrated, future-ready WASH solutions at scale:

Click the links to learn more about



Systems strengthening and local ownership

Institutional WASH and behaviour change

Climate-resilient infrastructure

Innovation through renewable energy

WASH partnerships

WASH: COUNTRY IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS



Thailand

World Vision Thailand has scaled sustainable WASH solutions through high-impact private-sector partnerships. Collaborations with FedEx and the IVL Foundation have combined corporate investment, employee engagement, and technical solutions, delivering solar-powered water systems and water filtration in 54 schools across 16 provinces, significantly improving safe water access for children since 2020.



China

In China, a strategic partnership with the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention has advanced the Rural Drinking Water Safety Plan across five villages in Guizhou and Yunnan. This collaboration has strengthened water safety management, enhanced community-led operation and maintenance, and built resilience against climate-related risks.



Cambodia & Myanmar

World Vision's floating sanitation solutions in Cambodia and Myanmar demonstrate how locally led innovation can break cycles of pollution and disease, delivering safer water, greater resilience to floods, and lasting health benefits for families living on water.



416,829 People

have access to basic drinking water



371,856 People

have access to improved sanitation



Leading WASH Innovation

In 2025, World Vision Mongolia received the Award for Innovative Social Responsibility Projects from the American Chamber of Commerce in Mongolia (AmCham Mongolia) for the Kherlen School Innovative WASH Project, recognising leadership in climate-smart, sustainable WASH solutions.

The project improved access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene for over 2,600 people, integrating solar-powered systems to reduce carbon emissions and deliver a scalable model for resilient, low-carbon WASH programming.



HEALTH & NUTRITION

East Asia is facing growing health and nutrition challenges shaped by climate change, food insecurity, economic pressures, and unequal access to health services. In countries such as Cambodia, China, Myanmar, Mongolia, Lao PDR, Vietnam, and Thailand, millions of children continue to struggle with poor nutrition, micronutrient deficiencies, and rising health risks. Climate-related disasters and changing food systems are further affecting food availability, dietary diversity, and disease outbreaks. In response, World Vision is implementing community-driven, evidence-based approaches that address both urgent needs and long-term systems transformation.

Click the links to learn more about



Proven behaviour change models

Evidence-based prevention strategies

Community-led health and nutrition systems

Prevent, educate, and raise awareness

Nurturing care for early childhood

HEALTH & NUTRITION: COUNTRY IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS



Viet Nam

ECAID Project

In its first year, the EU-supported ECAID project more than doubled its target, reaching 6,996 children and caregivers. By improving awareness of children's rights, strengthening referral mechanisms, and building the capacity of caregivers, health workers, educators, and government stakeholders, the project is helping children with autism and intellectual disabilities access essential services that support their health, well-being, and development. Notably, 16% of participating children co-designed and led community and school initiatives, demonstrating how inclusion and participation can strengthen outcomes for children often left behind



Cambodia

Baby-Friendly Health Centres (BFHC)

In Cambodia, the BFHC project is improving breastfeeding support across health facilities and communities. In partnership with the Ministry of Health, UNICEF, and WHO, it strengthens health worker capacity and community systems while promoting respectful, evidence-based care, driving better nutrition and early childhood development nationwide.



523,284 People Reached



82,072



75,067



224,221



141,924



82%

of births were attended by skilled birth attendants (Laos and Myanmar).



"I've learned simple ways to keep my child healthy, and I see the difference every day."

Through the Go-Baby-Go approach under the Samouï Nutrition Action Project (SNAP) in Laos, mothers gained the knowledge and confidence to transform how she cares for her children, improving their health, growth, and well-being. Her journey reflects a wider shift across more than 100 families, where simple, community-based solutions are helping children grow healthier, stronger, and ready for the future.

See how we're improving child nutrition in East Asia [here](#)

OUR EMERGENCY IMPACT IN EAST ASIA

FY2025 was marked by increasingly complex and overlapping crises across East Asia. Climate-related disasters, conflict, and seismic events stretched national systems and deepened vulnerabilities, from successive tropical cyclones across Southeast Asia to the devastating Sagaing–Mandalay earthquake in Myanmar.

In response, World Vision delivered 19 emergency responses across seven countries, reaching 976,955 people, including more than 319,314 children. Through USD 20.7 million in humanitarian assistance, we provided life-saving support while safeguarding dignity, with interventions focused on food security, WASH, child protection, and integrated multisectoral programming. These efforts helped children and families meet immediate needs while beginning their journey toward recovery.

Beyond the scale of the response, FY2025 marked a strategic shift toward anticipatory, locally led, and more inclusive humanitarian action. In Myanmar, the expansion of Anticipatory Action protocols strengthened community preparedness and aligned local efforts with emerging national systems. In Lao PDR, the RELIF risk forecasting pilot demonstrated how data and community insights can support more timely and localized decision-making before disasters occur. Together, these innovations are helping transform humanitarian action from reactive response to proactive risk management.

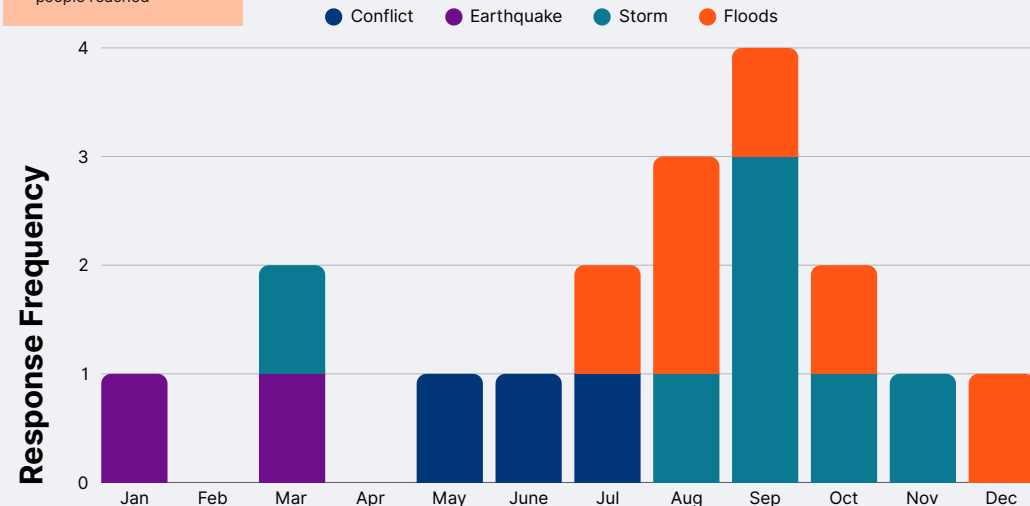
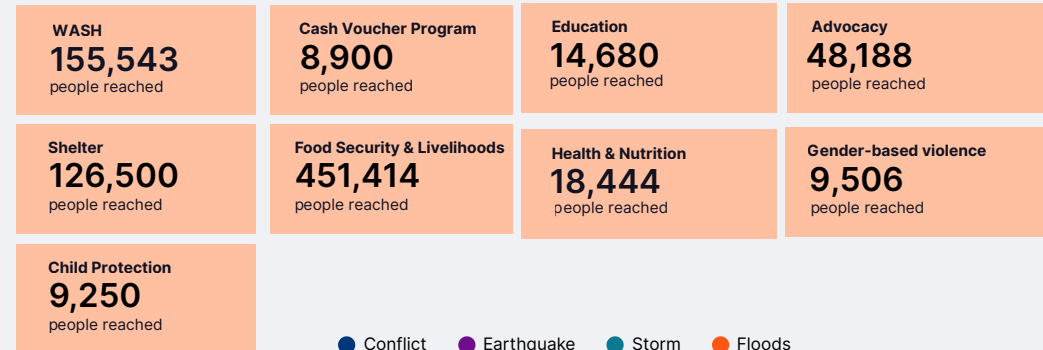
World Vision also strengthened its influence beyond frontline operations by supporting children and young people as active contributors to disaster risk reduction. Through child-led research and participation in regional platforms, their lived experiences informed policy discussions and recommendations. Across all responses, a commitment to inclusion remained central, ensuring that persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups were prioritized. In a year of rising needs and constrained resources, World Vision remained focused on protecting children while helping communities build greater resilience to future shocks.



657,641 Adults Reached



319,314 Children Reached





**MYANMAR EARTHQUAKE
EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

412,394 people
including 130,550 children supported
through the Myanmar Earthquake
Response.

15,949 people

including 8,101 children supported through
the Southern Floods Response 2025
Emergency Response.



**SOUTHERN THAILAND
FLOOD RESPONSE**



**BORDER CONFLICT RESPONSE:
THAILAND**

37,384 people
including 10,576 children supported
through the Border Conflict Response.

196,441 people

including 66,710 children supported
through the Border Conflict Response.



**BORDER CONFLICT RESPONSE:
CAMBODIA**



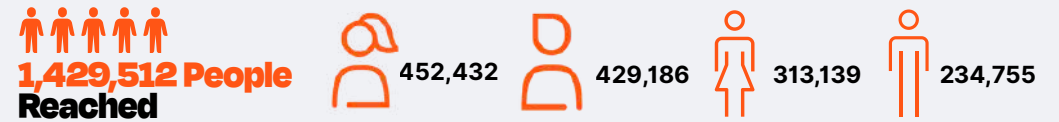
PROTECTION

Protecting children from harm and safeguarding their rights.



CHILD PROTECTION

Child protection across East Asia remains deeply complex and increasingly urgent. Millions of children continue to face violence, exploitation, and abuse, often within their own homes, schools, and communities. Harmful social norms, gender inequality, trafficking, conflict, and rapid digital expansion are intensifying risks, while climate shocks and migration are pushing more children beyond the reach of formal protection systems. Despite progress in policies and frameworks, the scale and severity of harm continue to outpace system capacity, particularly for the most vulnerable.



CHILD PROTECTION: COUNTRY IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

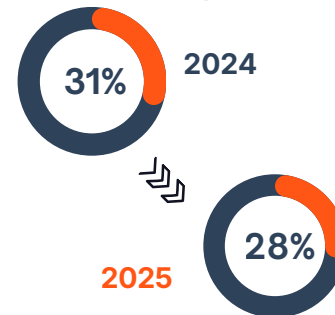


Cambodia

Strengthening National Safeguarding Systems

In a strategic partnership with key line ministries, World Vision facilitated the development and nationwide rollout of the Standard Operating Procedures for Child Protection (SoP-CP). This framework clarifies reporting and referral pathways, effectively bridging the gap between national policy and local implementation. By strengthening the capacity of district and commune authorities, the initiative ensures that child protection cases are handled with professional rigor. World Vision technical staff are currently scaling this impact by leading the training of ministry personnel across the country to ensure a unified, sustainable response to child welfare.

Snapshot of Impact: Cambodia 2025



- **Trend to Watch:** Caregiver-led violence against adolescents fell from 31% (2024) to 28% (2025), a significant move in the right direction.
- **The Road Ahead:** Physical punishment rates decreased from 66% to 60%. While the improvement is notable, the high prevalence confirms that World Vision's "Positive Parenting" initiatives remain a vital necessity for national change.

Sustainability in the Home Visiting Model

Findings from a multi-site ex-post study in Mongolia

2025



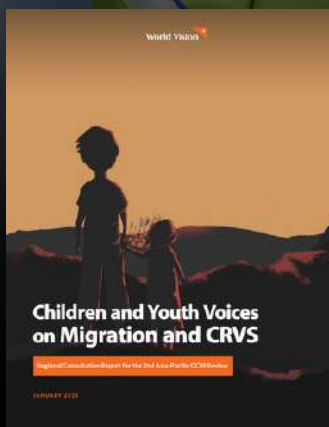
Mongolia: Strengthening Sustainable Child Protection Systems

Findings from Mongolia show that home visiting programmes can play a vital role in sustaining community-based child protection systems when designed with long-term continuity in mind.

By enabling early identification of risks and support to vulnerable children and families, these programmes contribute to preventing violence and strengthening care at the household level.



Read the full report [here](#)



This report presents the voices of 69 children (33 girls and 36 boys), aged 14 to 17 from 10 countries, sharing their experiences and perspectives on migration. Through consultations, they discussed key themes, including the drivers of migration, its impact on children, identity documentation, challenges in civil registration, and recommendations for strengthening civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) systems. The participating countries were Bangladesh, Cambodia, Laos, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Scan the QR or click [here](#) to read the full report



Explore more about migration programmes [here](#)

SAFE MIGRATION

Migration across East Asia is accelerating, driven not only by poverty and inequality, but increasingly by climate shocks that are reshaping livelihoods and forcing families to move. With over 10.6 million migrants in Southeast Asia and nearly 1.3 million children on the move, the region sits at the center of global child mobility. For children, migration is rarely a neutral experience. Whether they move or stay behind, they face disrupted education, emotional distress, heightened risks of exploitation and trafficking, and limited access to protection systems. Climate change is intensifying these risks, particularly in high-vulnerability corridors across the Greater Mekong sub-region.



Our Approach: Safe Migration, Child-Centred Solutions

World Vision responds through a safe migration approach, ensuring migration is safe, orderly, and dignified, while protecting children at every stage.

Our strategy combines:

<p>01 Prevention and Preparedness</p> <p>Equipping adolescents with life skills and safe migration awareness through the IMPACT+ Migration Module</p>	<p>02 Protection and Recovery</p> <p>Delivering psychosocial support through Child Friendly Spaces</p>	<p>03 Evidence and Advocacy</p> <p>Amplifying children's voices and generating research to influence policy and systems</p>	<p>04 Resilience Building</p> <p>Supporting climate-adaptive livelihoods and strengthening community capacity</p>
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SAFE MIGRATION: COUNTRY-LEVEL IMPACT

Securing Legal Identity: From Policy to Practice

World Vision Foundation of Thailand is driving a national movement toward inclusive civil registration, having already supported 33,000 stateless individuals through the legal status determination process. Our approach, rooted in mobile registration and deep engagement with provincial authorities, ensures that the most marginalized groups, including "G-code" students and migrant children, can access their fundamental rights. With a significant €1 million expansion starting in 2026, World Vision Foundation of Thailand will target five critical border provinces to ensure that legal status becomes a reality for 45,000 additional people, effectively removing the barriers to education, protection, and opportunity.

Thailand





“As long as I can earn enough to support my children's education”

From Broken Dreams to Renewed Hope

Ms. Lieu left her hometown with hopes of a better life, traveling to Saudi Arabia to support her family. Instead, she returned home exhausted and heartbroken after months of exploitation and abuse. With support from the Tackling Modern Slavery in Vietnam Phase 3 Project by World Vision Vietnam, she began to rebuild. A rice milling machine became her lifeline, providing income, while its by-products, along with maize and cassava, helped her raise free-range chickens and gradually restore her family's stability. Today, Ms. Lieu has not only rebuilt her livelihood, but also found her voice. By sharing her story, she is helping other women make safer migration choices, turning her experience into hope for others.



DEVELOPMENT

Unlocking every child's potential through learning and opportunity.

EDUCATION

Across Asia, millions of children are being left behind by a growing foundational learning crisis. Poverty, displacement, disability, and fragile systems continue to limit access to quality education, especially in rural and migrant communities. Without early literacy, life skills, and supportive learning environments, children risk falling irreversibly behind, affecting not only their futures but the long-term resilience of their communities.

Click the links to learn more about

[Strengthening Foundational Learning](#)

[Safe and Inclusive Learning Environments](#)

[Citizen Voice and Action](#)

[Education in Emergencies](#)

[Empowering Communities and Systems](#)

EDUCATION: COUNTRY IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS



Myanmar

In Myanmar, World Vision is sustaining learning in fragile contexts through flexible, community-based approaches. A total of 36,536 children accessed literacy programmes to build foundational reading skills, while 12,618 young children benefited from early childhood development centres and playgroups. Additionally, 30,083 caregivers were equipped to support learning at home, helping children continue their education despite ongoing disruptions.



China

World Vision supported 1,227 children with disabilities through integrated rehabilitation, education, and social services, promoting inclusion and participation in learning. Recognising the importance of child protection, age-appropriate sex education reached 1,170 children and 626 caregivers, strengthening awareness, confidence, and self-protection skills. In parallel, 226 teachers and practitioners were trained, reinforcing system capacity to deliver inclusive and protective education.



Cambodia

World Vision reached 164,949 children through inclusive education programmes, helping expand equitable access to learning across communities. Targeted interventions enabled 19,400 out-of-school children to return to education, while 20,019 school kits reduced financial barriers for vulnerable families. Together, these efforts are improving both access and retention, ensuring children can learn in safe and supportive environments.



523,279 People Reached



206,981



193,008



75,762



47,528

Sakada (Cambodia) attends a temporary learning classroom, created to ensure children can continue their education even as formal schools remain closed in displacement sites.

FOOD SECURITY & LIVELIHOODS

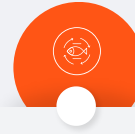
Food insecurity in East Asia remains a persistent challenge, driven by economic shocks, rising food prices, climate variability, and uneven post-pandemic recovery. While progress is evident with hunger declining to 6.4% in 2024, millions still struggle to access sufficient and nutritious food.

High food prices continue to erode gains. The cost of a healthy diet in Asia-Pacific reached USD 4.77 per person per day, placing it out of reach for many low-income households and forcing a shift toward cheaper, less nutritious diets. At the same time, climate-related shocks, including floods, droughts, and typhoons, are disrupting food production and rural livelihoods, further weakening already fragile food systems.



Our Key Interventions

[Click the links to learn more about](#)



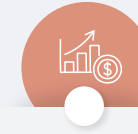
Livestock & Aquaculture

01



Market Access & Value Chain Development

02



Financial Services for Food Security

03



Environmental Sustainability

04



Improving Food and Nutrition Security and Resilience of Vulnerable Farmers (IFNSR)

Through the IFNSR project, funded by the BMZ, families like those of Sreytoch and Sreythom have achieved sustainable food security and economic resilience. By adopting climate-resilient farming and small-scale poultry practices, these households now produce a consistent supply of protein-rich meals for their children and generate vital income for school fees and household essentials. This holistic approach has empowered over 900 households across Cambodia to rise above climate-related adversity and build lasting self-reliance.



Sustainable Agriculture for Nutrition (SUAN) Project

Once struggling to provide for his growing family, Phonexai found a new path through poultry farming with support from the SUAN Project, turning daily care into a steady source of income, nutrition, and hope for a better future. The SUAN Project, implemented by World Vision Laos in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, strengthens food security and child nutrition by promoting climate-smart, nutrition-sensitive agriculture alongside improved childcare and WASH practices for vulnerable households.



DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (DRR) & CLIMATE CHANGE

The East Asia region is grappling with a compounding environmental crisis as unprecedented heatwaves, cyclones, and biodiversity loss reshape its social and economic foundations. In late 2025 and early 2026, the devastating impact of Cyclones Ditwah and Senyar, alongside Mongolia's extreme Dzud, resulted in over 1,600 fatalities and the displacement of 1.2 million people. These disasters have disproportionately affected the most vulnerable, including indigenous communities, marginal farmers, and slum dwellers, while disrupting the education of 4.1 million children and dismantling the infrastructure critical to their protection and development.

Building Resilience through Integrated Climate Action

In response to rising food insecurity and the systematic degradation of livelihoods, World Vision is driving climate resilience across Mongolia, Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, China, Myanmar, and Laos. By operationalizing practical, community-led solutions, such as climate-smart agriculture, ecosystem restoration, and sustainable waste management, we are addressing the root causes of vulnerability. Our strategic focus ensures that even in the face of saltwater intrusion and urban pollution, children and their communities are empowered with the clean energy, resilient livelihoods, and restored lands necessary to thrive in an increasingly volatile climate landscape.



DRR & CLIMATE CHANGE: COUNTRY LEVEL IMPACT



Thailand

Award-Winning Climate Action in Thailand

World Vision has successfully bridged the gap between youth empowerment and environmental infrastructure, reaching over 29,300 participants in 2025. By implementing sustainable waste-management systems and upcycling technologies, we have fostered a new generation of environmental stewards. Our impact in promoting circular economies and community resilience was honored with a 2025 award from the Ministry of Natural Resources & Environment, marking a milestone in our national Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction strategy.



Cambodia

Achieving Resilient Growth through Climate-Smart Innovation Through the IFNSR project

World Vision Cambodia has successfully linked climate resilience with economic prosperity. By equipping 900 households with Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) skills and strengthening market linkages, we have driven transformative annual income increases of up to 62.2%. This economic surge has directly translated into improved child health, with dietary diversity for children under five rising from 46.3% to 76.3%. Ultimately, this holistic intervention has reached over 147,000 people, building a sustainable foundation for food security and climate-resilient growth.

329,599 People

69,745

69,310

98,385

92,159



PARTICIPATION

Empowering children to lead, influence, and create lasting change.



CHILD & YOUTH PARTICIPATION

We believe that meaningful change happens when children are heard. This year, World Vision continued to strengthen its commitment to child participation, amplifying the voices of children and young people and ensuring they play an active role in shaping the decisions that affect their lives. World Vision is committed to ensuring that children and young people have meaningful opportunities to share their perspectives, influence decisions, and drive positive change in their communities. By creating safe and inclusive spaces for them to be heard, we are not only advancing their rights, but also building stronger, more responsive systems that reflect their realities and aspirations.

[Click the links to read their stories](#) 

Thai Youth Leader Heads to COP30 for Climate Justice

At just 19, Alex is emerging as a powerful youth voice connecting frontline realities to global climate action. From his community in Chiang Mai to the global stage at COP30 in Brazil, he brings lived experience of how climate change is disrupting lives; failing crops, deepening poverty, and limiting access to water for children and families. His journey underscores a critical truth: those most affected by climate change must be at the center of shaping solutions. Alex represents a new generation of leaders, grounded in community, driven by purpose, and influencing a more just and sustainable future for all.



Nhi's Journey: From a Shy Student to a Voice for ASEAN's Children

At just 16, Nhi from Viet Nam is emerging as a confident youth leader and advocate for digital safety. Representing her peers at the ASEAN Learning Session on Meaningful Child Participation in Kuala Lumpur, she brings both lived experience and leadership shaped through World Vision-supported programmes like Young Minds CAMP and the Child Online Safety Ambassador Club. Today, Nhi is not only raising her voice in regional forums, but also empowering others, training peers, leading school initiatives, and driving safer digital environments for children in her community and beyond.



Child Advocate Ming Urges Leaders: Protect Every Child

One year after global commitments to end violence against children, Ming, a young advocate from Thailand, took the global stage to urge leaders to turn promises into lasting action. Speaking at the "Dear Minister" session before ministers, UN leaders, and youth representatives, and contributing to the ASEAN End-Term Review on Ending Violence Against Children (EVAC) in Jakarta, Indonesia, Ming shared his journey from a child in a conflict-affected community to a powerful regional advocate, reinforcing the vital role children play in shaping policies that protect every child's right to be safe, heard, and protected.

CHILD & YOUTH PARTICIPATION



Young Minds Camp

As part of the ASEAN Midterm Review of the Regional Plan of Action on the Rights of Children in the Context of Migration (RPA-CCM), World Vision and UNICEF, with funding support from the European Union and partnership with Terre des Hommes Germany, convened a regional child and youth consultation in Bangkok, Thailand. Through World Vision's Young Minds CAMP platform, 25 child leaders from seven ASEAN countries came together under the theme "Young Minds in Action: Voices without Borders" to share lived experiences and recommendations on migration, ensuring children's voices meaningfully contribute to ASEAN's regional commitments on child rights.

Young Minds in Action: 12th Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development

At the 12th Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD), child leaders from across Asia demonstrated the power of meaningful child participation by engaging directly with UN representatives, development partners, and policymakers. Paris, a 15-year-old child journalist from Cambodia, led interviews with influential leaders at World Vision's Young Minds Newsroom, while children from Cambodia, Indonesia, Mongolia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Vietnam presented child-led research and initiatives on health and nutrition alongside regional experts and partners.



GENDER EQUALITY, DISABILITY, AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

Across East Asia, women, girls, children with disabilities, and displaced populations face heightened protection risks, including gender-based violence, exploitation, trafficking, and neglect, intensified by displacement, disasters, and economic stress. These risks are compounded by persistent under-reporting driven by stigma, limited survivor-centred services, and weak accountability systems, particularly in fragile contexts. Deeply embedded social norms, around male authority, unpaid care, son preference, and disability stigma, continue to restrict agency, limit access to essential services, and reinforce exclusion across systems, from households to schools, health services, and labor markets.

Key Interventions and Innovations



Disability-Inclusive Systems Strengthening and Norm Change

In Cambodia and China, GEDSI programming moved beyond services to address structural barriers, strengthening disability-responsive governance, expanding inclusive employment, and fostering interfaith dialogue. Cross-sector models improved coordinated access to health, education, and rehabilitation, ensuring children with disabilities, especially in underserved areas, are no longer left behind.

12% of households reached include a member with a disability.



Community-Led Norm Transformation for Gender Equality and Inclusion

In Laos, adolescents and youth under Samoui Nutrition Action Project (SNAP) challenged harmful gender norms while unlocking economic opportunity. By transforming traditional weaving into viable micro-enterprises, young women increased their income, preserved cultural identity, and advanced more equitable gender roles within their communities.

94% of households reported women actively engaged in decision-making (Cambodia, Mongolia, and Vietnam).

74% of households with children with disabilities can access structured learning institutions.



GEDSI-Responsive Maternal and Child Health in Fragile and Remote Contexts

Across Laos, Myanmar, and Mongolia, GEDSI-responsive health interventions prioritized equity and early action, strengthening village health systems, referral pathways, and community ownership. Life-saving heart surgeries in Mongolia reached the most vulnerable children, overcoming barriers of poverty, remoteness, and exclusion.



Protection and Gender-Based Violence Risk Mitigation Tailored to Mobility and Fragility

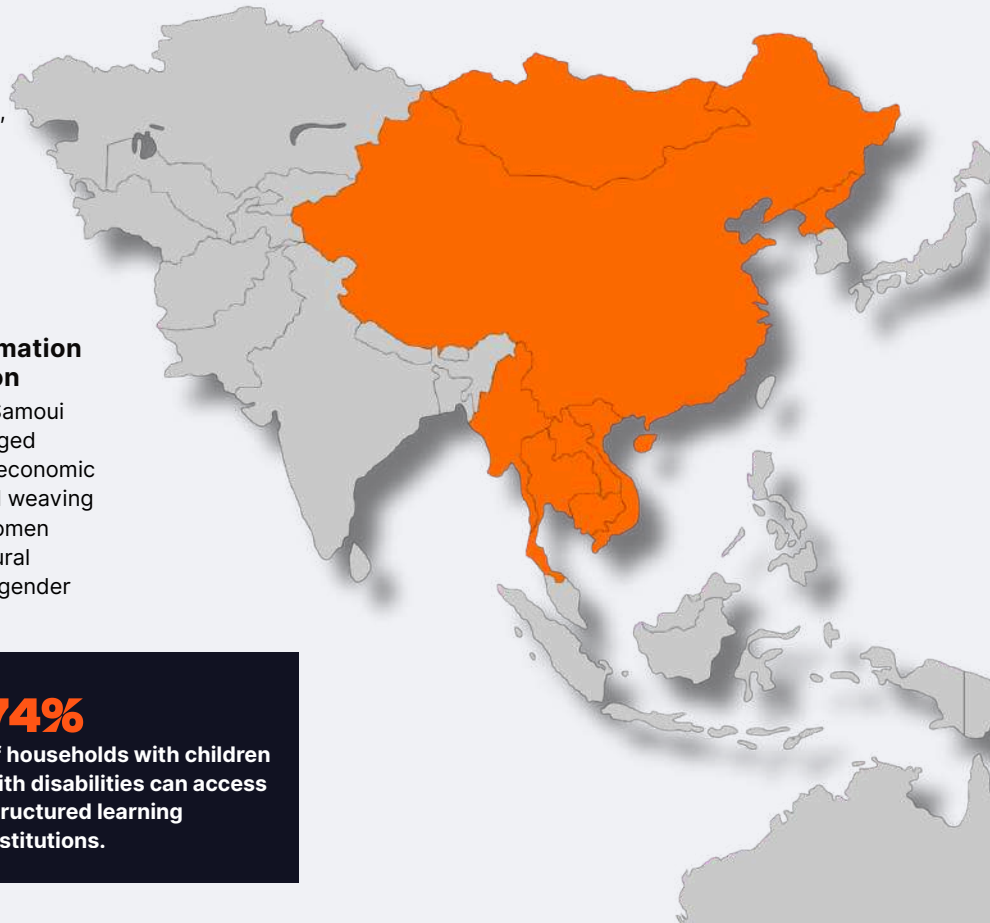
In Myanmar and Thailand, GEDSI-informed approaches addressed the complex risks faced by women and girls in fragile and migration settings, combining immediate support with interventions that reduce exploitation and promote safer, more dignified work.

70% of adult community members demonstrate support for gender-equitable attitudes (Myanmar, Cambodia, Thailand, and Vietnam).



Climate-Resilient and Inclusive Livelihoods at Scale

In Vietnam and Laos, GEDSI was embedded in market systems programming from the outset, building inclusive, climate-resilient networks that strengthen livelihoods and resilience for vulnerable families across the Mekong sub-region.





Country Impact: Mongolia

"My name is Tuguldur, and I am 14 years old. For many years, my family struggled without a home of our own or a stable income. My mother, who lives with a disability, worked incredibly hard to provide for us, sometimes taking construction jobs far from home despite the physical challenges she faced. My middle brother also has asthma and needs regular treatment, which placed even more pressure on our family. We lived in a small summer cabin owned by relatives that became unbearably cold during winter.

Everything changed when we received support through the 'Shineleg Ger' project. Today, we finally have a warm and safe home where we can stay together as a family. My brother and I now have a proper place to study, and our school performance has improved. Most importantly, my mother no longer has to leave us behind just to survive. Seeing her strength despite all the hardships inspires me every day. Now, I dream of studying hard, pursuing my future career, and making her proud."



Country Impact: China

After 22 years, the Prince of Peace Children's Home in Wuqing, Tianjin concluded as a model of compassionate, high-quality care. Through a partnership between the Wuqing Civil Affairs Bureau, POP Foundation, and World Vision, the initiative strengthened rehabilitation standards, mobilised community support, and inspired over 300 local and international interns to champion inclusion for children with disabilities.

As a result, 227 children gained improved rehabilitation, greater independence, and a better quality of life, leaving a lasting legacy of care beyond the institution itself.



ADVOCACY IMPACT

Reaching Vulnerable Children through Policy Change

In FY25, World Vision's advocacy across East Asia delivered strong results despite complex operating environments. A consistent focus on community-driven, evidence-based approaches enabled meaningful policy change for vulnerable children.

206 Policy Changes



an increase from 189 changes in FY24.

44 Policy Changes related to ending child hunger & malnutrition



an increase from 36 policy changes in FY24.

34 Million Children Impacted

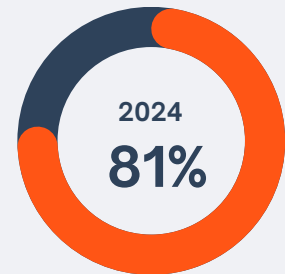


an increase from 33 million children in FY24



an increase in policy changes related to government funding for ending child hunger and malnutrition

% programmes supporting communities to advocate



562,515
Supporter
Advocacy Actions



Community empowerment was central, contributing to 68% of policy wins, while child participation featured in 60%, reflecting a growing recognition of children as active agents of change. Social mobilization (56%) and coalition building (46%) further strengthened collective influence, particularly in challenging contexts like Myanmar. The use of citizen-generated evidence (40%) enhanced credibility with decision-makers, ensuring advocacy was grounded in real community experience.

This approach is now firmly embedded: in FY25, 90% of Area Programmes supported community advocacy, up from 81% in FY24 and nearing the global average. The result is clear, empowered communities, backed by evidence and partnerships, are driving lasting policy change for children.



Recognised by the Kampong Thom Provincial Governor, Community Accountability Facilitator from Cambodia is helping turn community voices into action. Through the ISAF project, she has empowered local people to advocate for improved public services, proving that when communities participate, meaningful change becomes possible.



Research

UNCOVERING CHILD VULNERABILITY IN EAST ASIA

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 2025, World Vision East Asia partnered with the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP) to release **Behind the Averages: Uncovering Child Vulnerability in East Asia**, the most comprehensive analysis of child well-being in the region to date. The report warns that rising conflict, deepening poverty, climate crises, and systemic exclusion are reversing decades of progress, putting an entire generation at risk of being defined by vulnerability instead of opportunity.

Drawing on the Multidimensional Child Vulnerability Index (MCVI), the report examines five critical domains: extreme deprivation, discrimination, exposure to violence and abuse, environmental exposure, and resilience, across eight countries where World Vision operates in East Asia. The findings reveal that vulnerability is not only widespread but deeply multidimensional, intersecting across social, economic, and environmental factors. The findings paint a concerning picture of persistent systemic barriers and mounting environmental threats that place an entire generation at risk.

*Scan the QR code
to read the full report*





LIFE TRANSFORMATION

[Click the links to read their stories](#)

Bass (Thailand)

Growing up in poverty and at risk of dropping out of school, Kru Base is now a national teacher in Nan Province, guiding young people and inspiring them to believe in a better future.

Fon (Thailand)

Growing up in a remote farming community in Mae Hong Son, Fon once faced uncertainty about continuing her education. Today, she is a certified nurse, providing essential care, saving lives, and bringing hope back to the very community she calls home.

Margad (Mongolia)

Once a boy who could only dream of owning professional cycling shoes, Margad-Erdene is now a medal-winning cyclist, turning aspiration into achievement and showing how belief and perseverance can propel a child toward a brighter future.



Kim Long (Cambodia)

Kim Long was born into a farming family in Cambodia's Baribour Area Programme, where life was shaped by uncertainty and hard work. Despite these challenges, Kim Long carried a quiet but determined dream from an early age to become a teacher. While many children his age were pulled in different directions, he stayed focused.

Orn Uma (Thailand)

As a little girl who once played teacher with sticks and dirt as her blackboard, Orn-uma is now a dedicated teacher in a remote community, bringing education and hope to the next generation.



Van Anh (Viet Nam)

Once on the verge of dropping out to support her family, Van Anh found confidence and opportunity through World Vision's sponsorship program. She has since graduated from university and is now shaping young minds as a student teacher in Da Nang.

Vithalin (Cambodia)

Growing up in a farming family with limited opportunities, Vithalin is now a health centre staff member, providing essential healthcare and protecting children and families in her community.





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 programme 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 accountability to children and communities (2025).

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 2025, the Digital Accountability Platform was introduced to record and respond to community feedback and complaints efficiently.



**OUR VISION
FOR EVERY CHILD
LIFE IN ALL ITS FULLNESS**

**OUR PRAYER
FOR EVERY HEART
THE WILL TO MAKE IT SO**

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