

# WORLD VISION FINLAND CHILD RIGHTS PROGRAMME: "Every Child Counts"

# Annual Report 2019





Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland

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# Glossary

AP Area Program CPU Child Protection Unit CVA Citizen Voice and Action DILT Disability Leadership Team DPO Disabled Persons Organization FGM Female Genital Mutilation FMNR Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration ISAF Social Accountability Framework MFA Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland PWD People with Disabilities WASH Water Sanitation and Hygiene WVF World Vision Finland WVI-C World Vision International Cambodia WV World Vision

# I. Overview

World Vision Finland's (WVF) Child Rights Programme's goal is the Sustained well-being of children within families and communities, especially the most vulnerable. The Programme approaches this goal through six outcomes that focus on household's economic well-being and adequate provision for children, disability inclusion, child protection and participation, health (including WASH), quality education and Finnish citizens' understanding of development policy and their positive attitude towards development cooperation.

The Programme is implemented in seven countries through seven Area Programs (AP) and five special thematic projects. The special thematic projects reflect WVF's areas of expertise and cross-cutting themes. Geographically the Programme is implemented in East Africa, East Asia and Southeast Asia. Five out of seven implementation countries are considered belonging to the Least Developed Countries (Ethiopia, Rwanda, Uganda, Somalia, Cambodia). 49 % of the total programme spending in 2019 was used in these countries. In 2019 two new projects were included in the Programme portfolio: A Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) project in Ethiopia and an anti-female genital mutilation (anti-FGM) project in Somalia.

In 2019 the Child Rights Programme directly benefitted 325 018 people (97 384 women, 92 795 men, 68 287 girls and 66 552 boys, of which 1848 were persons with disabilities). The Programme targets the most vulnerable households in its implementation areas. All work is built upon the better realization of children's rights. The Programme also enhances the realization of gender equality and disability inclusion.

The Programme's progress in 2019 was altogether satisfactory. Three out of six Outcomes advanced as expected with few challenges. The other three Outcomes witnessed progress to some level but are behind of their expected targets. The Programme met or exceeded 10 out of 21 of its annual output targets in 2019. Although not all outputs were able to meet their annual targets, the progress made in each output category show the APs' and projects' continuing effectiveness and reflect their ongoing good working relationships with the benefitting communities. The situation of each Outcome at the end of 2019 is depicted in figure 1 below according to the traffic light system where green indicates good progress, yellow indicates satisfactory progress, and red indicates weak progress.

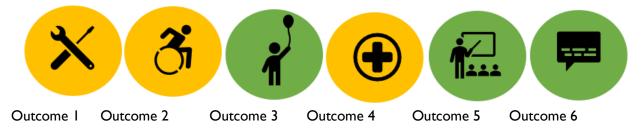


Figure 1: Outcome progress

The drastic weather conditions clearly impact the progress of many indicators in Outcomes I and 4 as well as indirectly affect the progress of the other Outcomes. It is important that the households are supported to be economically resilient and that communities are prepared for and can mitigate different natural disasters and challenges. The extreme weather conditions remain a challenge also at country level and require more continued work on disaster preparedness in collaboration with the local governments. Another challenge identified at Outcome level are the existing harmful gender

stereotypes. The existing gender stereotypes limit for example women's employment and men's involvement in child rearing and protection activities.

Most of the implementation countries faced continuing political unrest in 2019. The political situation of the countries in some cases increased the government's security measures and surveillance as well as affected the government's own work in the implementation areas but did not directly hinder WV's work in the field. According to CIVICUS' ranking - a global alliance of civil society organisations and activists that monitors civic space in 195 countries - in six of WVF's programme countries the civil space is repressed, while in one programme country (Kenya) it is obstructed. WV's main approach to strengthening civil society is to develop the capacity of grassroots, community-based organisations and educate citizen about their rights and thereby enable them to demand for example services they are entitled to from the duty-bearers. A typical example of this is the Citizen Voice and Action approach. In 2019 WV managed to successfully improve local service delivery, and to advocate for a child-friendlier legislations and policies in different implementation countries through our CVA and advocacy work.

Significantly more programs and projects were able to provide data disaggregated by sex and disability on output and outcome levels in comparison to the first year of implementation. This implies a positive trend towards increasing focus and of improved capacity within the programs and projects towards disability inclusion and gender equality. However, there is still more work to be done to achieve universal level of data disaggregation, especially on disability disaggregation. There is also still more work to be done to achieve universal level of indicator data reporting for all indicators.

WVF supported the international partner staff's implementation and program management and reporting capacity through field visits, annual Impact Seminar and capacity building call on annual reporting. WVF also piloted a new self-review tool as part of the end of year reporting and conducted a Child Protection capacity mapping on international program and project staff. These activities were directed towards closing and identifying existing gaps in AP and project implementation, management and reporting.

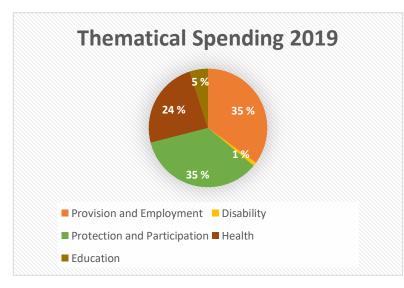


Figure 2: Thematical spending 2019

In 2019 the Programme invested budget-wise most on Provision and Employment (35 % of total spending) and on Protection and Participation (35 % of total spending) (see Image 2). Health (Outcome 4) came next with 24 %, with Education (5 %) and Disability (1 %) taking the smallest proportions of the total spending. The spending on disability only shows funding for specific disability inclusive activities such as disability trainings and mappings. Majority of the disability inclusive work has

been funded within other thematical areas such as health and provision and employment. The spending in 2019 is in line with the previous year's spending trends and reflects both the number of Area Programs and projects that focus on each theme as well as each sectors' cost-effectiveness.

# 2. Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning

WVF's international programmes team has continued to monitor and to provide technical support to the Area Programs and projects implemented under the Child Rights Programme as planned in 2019. The main responsibility for implementation remains with the local World Vision teams. WVF programme advisors conducted 15 monitoring visits to 7 countries in 2019. MFA of Finland representatives from the Units for Civil Society and Humanitarian Assistance participated in monitoring visit to Rwanda and a representative from the Unit for Development Finance and Private Sector Cooperation participated in project monitoring visits to two projects in Kenya.

Two AP evaluations were conducted in 2019: an end of program evaluation of Rajnandgaon AP in India, and an ex-post evaluation of Kituntu AP in Uganda that ended in 2010. The main results from these evaluations are introduced under the section 4 on Partner Countries.

WVF also conducted a mapping on international project and Area Program staff's technical capacity and understanding on child protection in 2019. The main results of the mapping are introduced in chapter 3.3. (Outcome 3).

WVF held its annual Impact Seminar in Helsinki in November 2019. The seminar is a sharing and learning platform for the staff from WVF funded programs and projects. In 2019 the seminar was attended by participants from programs and projects in nine countries funded through private funding, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland (Units for Civil Society and Humanitarian Assistance) and European Union (DEVCO and ECHO). The seminar's goals were to share lessons learned, successes and challenges regarding WVF development and humanitarian programmes, thematical expertise areas, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and gender in livelihoods. The seminar also included an overview on WVF as a Support Office and Government of Finland's development and humanitarian aid priorities. Some of the main action points the international seminar participants named for themselves from the seminar regarded widening the collaboration with local police on preventing child rights violations and children and youth's criminal behaviour at schools, improving staff capacity on gender mainstreaming, and improving the program capacity and tools on disability inclusion. The participants viewed the sessions on disability inclusion and the social model of disability as being the most impactful ones. Although disability is a crosscutting theme for WV many staff members still perceive disability through the lens of the so-called charity model therefore the sessions provided the participants with new perspectives and ideas on disability inclusion.

WVF held a capacity building call on the MFA grant annual reporting in 2019 for AP and project staff implementing the Child Rights Programme. During the call, WVF provided feedback on the 2018 annual reporting with the aim of improving it for 2019. The themes discussed included sex and disability data disaggregation, gaps in indicator data reporting, risk reporting and Outcome 2 (disability inclusion) monitoring. WVF also introduced a team-review tool that was piloted as part of the 2019 AP and project reporting. The team-review tool captures the implementing team's own assessment on the change, sustainability, and level of equality achieved in implementation and on the implementation quality. The team-review tool will be further developed in 2020 to better support WVF's monitoring and reporting requirements.

A new reporting template will be developed and piloted to support the Area Program and project reporting and monitoring in 2020. The template will be formed based on the challenges and needs identified in indicator data monitoring and reporting in 2018 and 2019. A few indicator definitions will

also be revisited to support the reporting of intended data. The Programme will also go through the current data source requirements to make sure that only relevant APs and projects are included for each indicator. WVF has identified some continuing challenges on data monitoring at AP and project levels that are related to the reliability of shared AP and project-level data as well as on the staff's understanding of the role of data monitoring in program implementation. These data monitoring and reporting issues will be discussed for example during the 2020 Impact Seminar and during field visits.

# 3. Results reporting

World Vision's Child Rights Programme has continued its implementation successfully in 7 Area Programs (AP) and five special thematical projects in Ethiopia (FMNR special thematical project), Kenya (Mogotio AP, Ngoswet AP, Roysambu special thematical project, Sook anti-FGM special thematical project), Rwanda (Busia special thematical project), Somalia (anti-FGM special thematical project), Uganda (Busia AP, Kirewa-Nabuyoga AP), Cambodia (Santuk AP) and India (Rajnandgaon AP, Hoshangabad AP). The Programme also continued to implement the Action Research on Children with Disabilities in Uganda which was started in 2018. In 2019 two new special thematical projects were included in the Programme portfolio, a Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) project in Ethiopia and an anti-female genital mutilation (anti-FGM) project in Somalia. Ethiopia and Somalia are new implementation countries for World Vision Finland. In 2019 the Programme directly benefitted 190 179 adults (97 384 women, 92 795 men) and 134 839 children (68 287 girls, 66 552 boys). At least 1848 of the direct beneficiaries were persons with disabilities.

The six Programme Outcomes have in general witnessed positive progress in 2019. The Programme can be said to progress well towards its impact goal *Sustained well-being of children within families and communities, especially the most vulnerable* based on the status of the Outcomes. Main challenges that remain under the different Outcomes include the level of resilience to drastic weather conditions and other natural disasters and restrictive gender stereotypes. Although significantly more APs and projects were able to provide sex and disability disaggregated output and outcome data in comparison to 2018 there is still much work to be done to increase data disaggregation. The disaggregated data is essential in directing our work efforts to create more inclusive and equal communities. Especially disability disaggregation remains a challenge for most of the APs and projects. Some Area Programs have conducted disability assessments and most APs and projects have participated in disability inclusion trainings that are part of the Programme targets. These activities should support the staff's capacity to identify and to better include differently disabled people into all activities. We will support the remaining APs and projects to conduct the assessments and trainings as soon as possible.

The volume of indicator data reporting has also increased in comparison to 2018 reporting. However, no Outcome has yet been able to achieve a universal level of reporting. The reporting situation is challenging especially for Outcome 2 (Disability inclusion) on which less than half of the APs and projects have reported their progress and on Outcome 3 (Child Protection and participation) on which around half of the relevant programs and projects reported their progress. These two Outcomes also require the highest number of APs and projects to report their progress. The lack of universal reporting of the indicators is a challenge for analysing their progress accurately at programme level. For some Outcome areas there is a slight discrepancy in which Area Programs or projects reported data at output and which at outcome indicator level. This is a problem for reviewing the logic of the output - outcome result chains. This discrepancy has been taken into consideration in analysing the Outcome results.

The Outcomes' 1-5 progress has been analysed based on the average change that took place in the Area Programs and projects for each indicator during 2019. The average change per indicator is presented in percentage points and has been calculated by counting the difference between 2019 and 2018 results. Some of the 2018 Outcome level indicator results have been updated in this report due to the addition of new projects in 2019. Two 2018 indicator figures under Outcome I and Outcome 5 have also been corrected due to calculation and reporting errors during the previous reporting cycle.

3.1. Outcome 1: Parents and caregivers provide well for their children and adolescents are ready for economic opportunity

Indicator	Baselin e 2017	Status 2018	Status 2019	Target 2021	Projects reported
% of parents able to provide well for their children	34 %	74 % (change + 40 % points)	52 % (change - 22 % points)	70%	<ul> <li>6/7</li> <li>Hoshangabad AP</li> <li>Rajnandgaon AP</li> <li>Busia AP</li> <li>Kirewa-Nabuyoga AP</li> <li>Ng'oswet AP</li> <li>Mogotio AP</li> </ul>
% of trained youth and young adults employed	40 %	38 % (change –2 % points)	47 % (change + 9 % points)	80%	<ul> <li>5/6</li> <li>Busia AP</li> <li>Kirewa-Nabuyoga AP</li> <li>Ng'oswet AP</li> <li>Roysambu YLP</li> <li>Buliza YEP</li> </ul>
% of households food secure for the past 12 months	50 %	54 % (change + 4 % points)	49 % (change –5 % points)	69%	<ul> <li>5/7</li> <li>Rajnandgaon AP</li> <li>Busia AP</li> <li>Kirewa-Nabuyoga AP</li> <li>Ng'oswet AP</li> <li>Mogotio AP</li> </ul>

Table 1: Outcome 1 status

#### Introduction to the Outcome

WVF's Child Rights Programme's first Outcome is "Parents and caregivers provide well for their children, and that adolescents are ready for economic opportunity". Progress towards this outcome is followed through three outcome and three output indicators that are measured in six to seven projects in India, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda and Ethiopia (table 1). World Vision's work on improving the livelihood situation of poor families and youth focuses on improving youth employment and empowering parents and caregivers economically. These targets are realized through activities such as providing vocational and life skills training, training on sustainable agricultural methods and on business management, improving the access and use of resources such as market knowledge, market linkages and farming

equipment, value chain development and providing start-up kits as well as enhancing the access to financial services through savings groups and village banks, improved financial literacy and partnerships with financial institutions. WV also encourages and supports families in livelihood diversification for increased economic resilience. Most of WV's programs are implemented in rural areas where agriculture is the main source of income.

#### Progress in 2019

Overall, the Outcome's progress has been varied in 2019. All outputs have progressed very well but there were some challenges at the outcome level. As with other outcome indicators, however, the impact of one year is hard to capture and achieving lasting change at outcome level takes many years of work. Ethiopia FMNR special program was added to the Programme in 2019 and will in the future feed mainly into this Outcome. In 2019 the program was able to report its progress at output level only.

#### Household's economic wellbeing

In 2019 World Vision Finland supported 1105 households (HH) to start a small business. Out of the ten programs that reported their achievements under this indicator three programs reported the number of disabled HH reached (38 HH), and two programs were able to disaggregate the heads of households supported by sex (42 women and 28 men). The number of programs that disaggregated data by sex and disability is still very low although this is already a positive development from last year when no program shared disaggregated data on the output. The output's progress in 2019 exceeds our annual target of 409 HH in 2019. It also brings us over the 2021 target of supporting cumulatively 2000 HH as we have now in total supported 2713 households to start a small business. The 2021 target for this indicator will be re-evaluated in the light of its performance in 2018 and 2019.

The small businesses are important for both off-farm and agricultural households in securing additional sources of income. Although the Programme was successful in supporting the establishment of more businesses, it also saw a striking decrease in the percentage of families that were able to provide for their children from 74 % in 2018 to 52 % in 2019 (table 1). This decrease is due to the low results in both of our AP's in India where last year's droughts affected household incomes. Majority of the households in these APs are engaged in agriculture and the drought significantly affected the crop yields last year causing losses to livelihood. In Ng'oswet AP, another rural project that saw a smaller drop in the performance of this indicator, the reason was also in weather as heavy rains destroyed part of the crops. Although the indicator's status declined in comparison to the year 2018 it is still clearly above the baseline value (34 %) and is on track to reach our 2021 target of 70 %. As most of our beneficiaries depend on agriculture for their income the performance of this indicator is susceptible to vary from one year to another due to changes in weather conditions. Because of this, the 2021 target (70 %) has been set relatively low as enhancing families' income resilience and stabilising their economic situations is as, if not even more important than supporting them towards higher levels of income.

In both Indian AP's as well as in Ng'oswet the number of households that had started a small business was low compared to the achievement of other APs. It should be noted however that the APs in India do not focus on livelihood activities anymore. The APs in India have worked extensively to support community level disaster preparedness so it is probable that the effects of the drought might have been even worse without the Area Programs work in previous years. We will keep supporting more households to start additional income-generating activities as well as continue to train communities in disaster management and climate-sensitive agricultural methods to make sure that more households are resilient to external stress factors. Some of the identified core activities that positively contribute to the

realization of this outcome indicator goal are establishing and supporting the running of different saving and loans groups, enhancing the access to financial services, individual and household level empowerment (using, for example, World Vision's own Empowered World View model) and different climate change adaptive and mitigating measures such as FMNR and access to water and irrigation. We support the formation of different types of savings and loans groups in all our APs. The savings groups are vitally important for poor households as they serve both as sources of loans for starting and developing small businesses as well as provide some financial security for the families in economic shocks. Often these groups themselves support other poor families or orphaned children, for example.

#### Food security

In 2019, 968 new farmers were applying improved and sustainable agricultural techniques. This is above our 2019 target of 600 new farmers and is a good progress towards reaching our 2021 goal of 2400 farmers (cumulative situation in 2019 is 1743 farmers). The new techniques help to improve crop and livestock production and crop quality in a way that is environmentally sustainable. These techniques should contribute both to the families' improved incomes as well as their increased food security. The percentage of households that have been food secure for the past 12 months, however, decreased in 2019 by five percentage points from 2018 (from 54 % to 49 %) (table 1). This negative result is greatly affected by the notable drop in the food security situation in Kirewa-Nabuyoga AP in Uganda where the heavy rains destroyed most of the crops in 2019.

The families' ability to provide for their children without external assistance (outcome indicator I) and their food security situation (outcome indicator 3) are not necessarily linked. In Kirewa-Nabuyoga AP the loss of crops did not negatively affect most families' ability to provide for their children although their level food security dropped. Families may opt to take loans from the savings groups during economic shocks or to sell most of their crops to provide for necessities. The previous year's crop situation also affects the families' economic and nutritional status into the coming year. Families' willingness to prioritize nutritional, regular meals also depends on the awareness-raising on the importance of nutrition for children's growth and development. The issue of food security is also deeply rooted in gender roles and children's status in society. For example, male heads of households are generally more likely to invest money on income-generating assets for example than on their children's immediate needs. The communities can also provide some relief to families to manage through economic hardship. In the Rajnandgaon AP in India the situation of food security has, for example, remained very high in 2019 despite the crops being largely destroyed by drought. This is due to local governments actions towards providing food assistance in the AP area. Improved food security, therefore, requires multiple factors ranging from improved livelihood opportunities and good financial management to appropriate food storing, increased understanding of the importance of nutrition and gender equality within families.

#### Youth employment

In 2019 World Vision supported 677 adolescents and young adults to access upper secondary or tertiary school, vocational or skills training or apprenticeship. Five out six programs were able to provide disaggregation by sex on this data (165 women and 146 men reached). Two out of six programs provided disability disaggregation (13 disabled persons reached). The annual achievement is above the 2019 target (475 youth) and shows good progress towards reaching our 2021 target of 1900 trained youth.

Education increases the youth's likelihood for decent work. 47 % of the youth trained through World Vision were employed at the end of 2019 (table 1). According to the sex disaggregation received from three out of the five programs, 52 % of the women and 58 % of the men trained through WV were in employment. There is a slight difference between the sexes for the benefit of men. This difference can especially be seen in rural APs where women's employment is still somewhat restricted by gender norms. The annual result is an improvement of nine percentage points from 2018 (38 %) and seven from the baseline (40 %). The vocational skills training often last until December in the youth employment specific projects. The youth's employment situation can only be monitored in those projects during the following year which shows as a delay in the Programme level results. The employment situation of the youth trained in 2018 in Roysambu, for example, could first be monitored in 2019. Therefore, the indicator's progress is promising even though it is behind of its 2021 target (80%).

# Lessons learned

Despite some good achievements in 2019, the work to improve families' and youths' livelihoods still needs more efforts. Building families' and communities' resilience to disasters, both environmental and personal, supporting gender equality and especially women's access to employment as well as teaching on proper financial management is still required. In Busia AP, for example, some households opted to use their savings group loans on immediate household needs instead of income-generating activities. The savings groups should be supported to have separate accounts for social and livelihoods needs. Savings groups also can help to maintain traditional gender roles if special measures are not applied. In some savings groups, the female members are giving their loans to their husbands or brothers to use in their businesses. This is against the basic rules of the savings groups where all saving and loaning should take place amongst the acknowledged members and support the economic empowerment of women. The savings groups should be monitored more closely to make sure that they are accessible to all community members, that money stays within the selected group and that money is primarily loaned for income-generating activities. Data disaggregation should also be still emphasized during the 2020 monitoring and reporting.

3.2. Outcome 2: People living with disabilities enjoy equal rights and opportunities to participate in a society free from discrimination

Indicator	Baseline 2017	Status 2018	Status 2019	Targe t 2021	Projects reported
% of PWD who have equal participation	12 %	Not reported	47 %	64 %	4/12 ● Busia AP
opportunities			(change +35 percentage		<ul><li>Ng'oswet AP</li><li>Mogotio AP</li></ul>
			points)		<ul> <li>Santuk AP</li> </ul>

Table 2: Outcome 2 status

# Introduction to the Outcome

WVF's Child Rights Program's second Outcome is that people living with disabilities (PWD) enjoy equal rights and opportunities to participate in a society free from discrimination. The Programme monitors the progress towards this Outcome through one outcome and four output indicators in all twelve APs

and projects. The Programme seeks to improve Area Program and project level disability inclusion through improving WV staff's capacity and knowledge on disability-inclusive programming and through empowering PWDs both socially and economically. World Vision applies *the social model* into disability. This means that disability is perceived as the outcome of societal attitudes and structures to a person's impairment. The activities enhancing inclusion focus on identifying and removing attitudinal, environmental and institutional barriers that prevent those with impairments equal inclusion in development programmes and in societies. Disability inclusion is a cross-cutting theme in all our Area Programs and projects. Disability inclusion includes partnering with and supporting disabled persons organizations (DPOs), promoting accessibility in infrastructure (e.g. WASH) facilities and advocacy for the reduction of stigma and discrimination. Disabled persons and their families are also often prioritized as the beneficiaries of livelihoods and other activities since they are typically amongst the poorest and most vulnerable members of the communities we work with.

#### **Progress in 2019**

The Outcome has made positive progress in 2019. Although disability is one of World Vision's crosscutting themes across the Partnership disability inclusion is easily overlooked if there are no push factors for the staff to monitor and implement inclusion. It is, therefore, a sign of improved staff commitment and capacity that more WVF supported programs have been able to report their progress towards the output and outcome indicators in 2019 than in 2018. The indicators themselves also show positive trends towards reaching the 2021 targets.

#### Staff capacity and knowledge

WVF seeks to support our partners' capacity on disability inclusion by providing them with training on WV's own *Travelling Together* inclusion curriculum. In 2018, nine out of ten programs participated in the locally organized Travelling Together trainings. In 2019, the staff of one Area Program was trained and the staff of two others were refresher trained. Now the training has been provided to ten out of twelve programs at least once. The Programme had intended that the staff of all programs would undergo the training annually, but this has turned out to be challenging as World Vision currently has only a handful of qualified Travelling Together trainers globally. World Vision's global Disability Inclusion Leadership Team (DILT), where WVF is represented is looking to build an online training version for the curriculum which would make the staff training easier and more cost-effective. When ready the online training will be made mandatory to all staff in WVF supported projects and programs.

WVF also supports our partners' capacity on disability inclusion through conducting disability prevalence surveys in area program and project areas. The surveys serve as the means to receive up to date and realistic data on disability prevalence in the implementation areas. This data helps the programs to take the needs of the different disability types into consideration more accurately as well as helps to monitor the inclusion and participation of the people living with disabilities into our activities. Ideally, the prevalence surveys should use *the Washington Group methodology on Disability Statistics*, and this data should be updated every two years. In 2019 six APs or projects out of twelve had conducted the disability prevalence survey. In Roysambu project the disability assessment contributed significantly to the staff's awareness on disability prevalence and to the project implementation. A staff member reported that before the survey the project was not aware of the very challenging situations of many of the disabled persons living in the area and consequently the project has made some alterations to its 2020 plans to better include and serve the youth and families with disabilities.

#### Disability inclusive program implementation

WVF encourages our partners to collaborate with local DPOs to create sustainability and to enhance the effectiveness of our work. In 2019, six out of twelve Area Programs and projects reported to have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with a local or national DPO. This is a slight increase to last year when five APs had an MoU with a DPO. Several other APs also collaborate with different DPOs but still without an MoU.

In 2019, 1848 people with disabilities (653 women, 932 men) were reported to be included in all WVF supported project activities. This output indicator was reported by ten out of twelve APs and shows progress in comparison to 2018 (1609 PDW) when the indicator was reported by seven out of ten programs. This annual result is however still low in comparison to our 2021 target (13 584 PWD, 5 % of direct beneficiaries). We expect that the upcoming disability prevalence surveys will increase the number of disabled beneficiaries reported in those programs where this exercise has not yet been conducted. The programs are also likely to report fewer direct beneficiaries with disabilities than what they reach as some disabilities, particularly intellectual and communication-related, are not recognized and some PWD or their families are likely not to have shared information on their disability because of privacy or shame. Although the indicator does not yet likely capture the number of disabled people reached accurately it reveals information on the trends on inclusion and on staff mentality. For WVF, it is therefore important also to monitor the number of APs reporting this indicator as this reflects how many programs pay attention to inclusion.

All the outputs show progress both towards increased WV staff capacity and knowledge as well as towards more purposeful inclusion in program activities. This progress is also shown in the outcome monitoring results. In 2019, 47 % of PWDs in four out of twelve program areas reported having equal access to community groups supported by World Vision (table 2). Although this indicator has been reported by less than half of all our programs and projects the figure shows substantial progress from the baseline figure (12 %). The number of programs and projects reporting also show positive trends on the staff paying attention to disability inclusion as last year the indicator was not reported by any program. One AP disaggregated the outcome data by sex. In it, 38 % of women living with disabilities and 46 % of men living with disabilities reported equal access to community groups.

# Lessons learned

Based on the first two years of implementation of the Child Rights Programme, we continue believing that the Programme's most foundational components/requirements for the promotion of inclusion and disabled people's rights are valid: a) disability prevalence surveys in program implementation areas, b) regular staff training on inclusion, c) collaboration with local DPOs at the program level, and d) ensuring that all program components are inclusive, and that inclusion is measured.

Disability prevalence surveys serve as means for the collection of accurate data on persons with different kinds of disabilities in the program areas but also often as 'an awakening' for staff on the existence and needs of this vulnerable group. In order to learn to collect the required indicator data and to report it in a uniformed and coherent way, the programs require careful attention and advise from the Support Office before the start of the reporting period.

One particular set of learnings on the issues related to protection and children with disabilities were captured in 2019 through an Action Research in Uganda as described below.

Action Research on Children with Disabilities in Uganda

The protection needs of children with disabilities has been a concern for World Vision Finland. Hence, in partnership with the Disability Partnership Finland (Vammaiskumppanuus ry) and World Vision Uganda, an Action Research was planned and carried out between July and September 2019, focusing on the potential neglect and abuse on children with disabilities. The research covered the two divisions of the Busia Municipality in Busia district and two sub-counties of Kirewa and Nabuyoga in Tororo district. The key respondents for the quantitative part of the survey were caregivers of children living with a disability. 681 households were reached. In addition, Focus Group Discussions and Key Informant Interviews were conducted with caregivers, service providers and local leaders both at sub-county and district level.

The results show that 40% of children with disabilities have been verbally abused and teased, particularly by other children and neighbours. 25% have been avoided and neglected, 14% physically abused and 0,7% sexually abused. More than half of the children did not attend school. Households with children with disability are among the poorest households, and disability in the families has further decreased households' income.

Substantial action has already been taken for the improvement of these children's and their families' situation. For example, in Busia, World Vision has worked with the Child Protection Coalition, police and the Busia District Probation and Welfare Office, to sensitize people with disabilities on protection and education for their children. In addition, 50 school going children with disabilities have been trained to equip them with life skills to respond to their own challenges, to build self-esteem, to keep themselves safe and to develop their interpersonal skills to enable them to freely interact with their peers. In Kirewa-Nabuyoga, parents or caretakers of children with disabilities have been supported to join household cluster groups to enable them to support the livelihoods of their children and to acquire knowledge on the protection and care of their children.

Indicator	Baseline 2017	Status 2018	Status 2019	Target 2021	Projects reported
Communitie s can identify, understand and respond adequately to violations of child rights, in coordinatio n with local justice mechanisms	48 %	69 % (change +21 percentage points)	81 % (change +12 percentage points)	83 %	<ul> <li>4/11</li> <li>Kirewa-Nabuyoga AP</li> <li>Ng'oswet AP</li> <li>Mogotio AP</li> <li>Somalia Anti-FGM</li> </ul>
% of adolescents who know	68 %	80 %	89 %	84 %	<ul><li>8/11</li><li>Hoshangabad AP</li><li>Rajnandgaon AP</li></ul>

# 3.3. Outcome 3: Children are cared for, protected and participating

of the presence of child protection services and mechanisms		(change + 12 percentage points)	(change + 9 percentage points)		<ul> <li>Busia AP</li> <li>Kirewa-Nabuyoga AP</li> <li>Ng'oswet AP</li> <li>Mogotio AP</li> <li>Sook Anti-FGM</li> <li>Somalia Anti-FGM</li> </ul>
% of children who feel that their community is a safe place	60 %	73 % (change + 13 percentage points)	74 % (change + 1 percentage point)	74 %	<ul> <li>5/8</li> <li>Busia AP</li> <li>Kirewa-Nabuyoga AP</li> <li>Ng'oswet AP</li> <li>Mogotio AP</li> <li>Somalia Anti-FGM</li> </ul>
% of adolescents whose views are sought and incorporate d into the decision making of local government	30 %	36 % (change + 6 percentage points)	45 % (change + 9 percentage points)	45 %	<ul> <li>5/7</li> <li>Busia AP</li> <li>Kirewa-Nabuyoga AP</li> <li>Ng'oswet AP</li> <li>Mogotio AP</li> <li>Santuk AP</li> </ul>

Table 3: Outcome 3 status

# Introduction to the Outcome

WVF's Child Rights Programme's third Outcome is that "Children are cared for, protected and participating". The progress towards this outcome is monitored through four outcome level indicators and four output level indicators in seven to eleven area programs and projects (table 3). WV uses a systems approach to child protection. This means that World Vision works to improve child protection by empowering children and by working with different partners to create a safe and protective environment around the children. WV's work focuses both on addressing the root causes as well as responding to existing child protection violations. The activities under this outcome include strengthening a child-friendly culture within families through teaching on parenting and child development, partnering with communities to create child-friendly communities through supporting child protection units, catalysing faith communities to transform social norms that are harmful to children, influencing governments to ensure the protection of children, and by empowering children to be influential child protection actors through teaching on children's rights.

WV partners with teachers, faith and traditional leaders, local and national government officials including police and different civil society groups and networks to build their awareness on children's rights as well as their capacity on reporting and responding to child rights violations. Children are actively supported to participate in decision-making within their families and communities at age appropriate ways, as well as to participate in WV project planning and monitoring activities. World Vision Finland conducted a Mapping on Project and Programme Staff Capacity on Child Protection in 2019 amongst all its APs and special thematical projects. Below is the summary of the mapping findings.

#### Child Protection Mapping

During 2019, WVF replicated a Mapping on Project and Programme Staff Capacity on Child Protection that was conducted in 2013. Answers were received from 12 programs/projects. Based on the Mapping among the organization's development programs in Asia, Africa and Latin America in September 2019 the promotion of child protection has been supported by staff training and the staff's capacity was generally found to be very good (7/12) or good (5/12). The results are similar to the results of the previous mapping in 2013. All Area Programs have a designated person to oversee child protection monitoring. Special thematic projects on youth employment and FMNR lack this resource but are often implemented close to or in linkage to Area Programs, whereby similar resources are available.

Training for staff have in general been organized by National Offices (NO) and all projects are confident that they have knowledge on where to receive more support or information regarding child protection. Training for community members, parents and children within the projects have often been organized in cooperation with local authorities. This supports the sustainability of child protection activities.

In most of the projects and programs, several of the child protection issues are present (physical abuse, psychological abuse, sexual abuse, child labour, neglect, harmful traditional practices and early marriage). Children's lives are mostly affected by neglect which was present in all areas. Neglect was found to be extremely severe in 1 and quite severe in 6 projects. Child labour was found to be extremely critical in 2 and quite severe in 3 projects. Sexual abuse was mentioned to have increased in 4 of the projects.

In 2013 especially the Asian and African programs reported challenges with early marriage. In the year 2019 a significant change to the better could be noted since both Indian programs reported this not to be present any longer. On the other hand, this was still quite a sever challenge in Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda.

One of the biggest challenges mentioned was the lack of budget. More than half of the projects felt that they did not have enough budget for child protection activities. Another challenge affecting the results of child protection mentioned was community resistance.

CVA has only been used in 4/12 projects as a method to engage in and improve the child protection situation. A few projects also mentioned that CVA activities have been planned for the coming year.

In future specific attention will be made to ensure that funding for child protection activities is prioritized where lack has been identified. Further, the project staff will be encouraged and supported to use CVA as a method to sustainably improve the child protection situation within the program areas.

# Progress in 2019

The Outcome indicators have progressed well in 2019. However, all indicators still lack universal reporting which needs to be addressed in 2020. There has been a remarkable increase in the number of programs that have reported data disaggregated by sex in comparison to 2018. There is still, however, a need for supporting the program's ability to provide disability disaggregated data.

# Community level child protection efforts

In 2019, 3608 community members were engaged in advocacy and/or CVA community gatherings on child protection issues. Seven out of eight programs were able to provide data disaggregation by sex on the data (1338 women and 710 men), as well as two programs were able to provide disability disaggregation (54 disabled persons). Women's and men's equal participation on matters concerning

children's rights and well-being is still a clear challenge in our APs in Asia and to a lesser extent in Africa. Fathers involvement in child protection is usually not viewed as part of the traditional male role. The output's annual achievement is well above the annual target of 1000 community members engaged in advocacy and/or CVA activities. The Programme has now also exceeded its 2021 target (5000 community members) as by 2019 cumulatively 6470 people had engaged in these activities. The output target for 2021 will be revised in 2020. This over achievement of the original target can be partly contributed to large scale advocacy campaigns in some APs. The community-level advocacy and CVA gatherings indicate the community's improved knowledge of children's rights as well as their motivation towards improved child protection.

This same trend is reflected in the increase of the percentage of communities that can identify, understand and respond adequately to violations on child rights in coordination with local justice mechanisms. This outcome indicator progressed by 12 percentage points (to 81 % from 69 % in 2018) and is well above its 2017 baseline (48 %). It should, however, be noted that only four out of eleven required programs reported their progress towards this indicator. Therefore, it is difficult to assess how well the indicator is progressing towards its end of Programme target. Some programs have had trouble understanding the indicator definition and this has caused them to report this indicator incorrectly. During the next reporting period, the indicator definition will be revised so that it better supports AP level reporting.

#### Adolescents' and children's child protection capacity

In addition to engaging community members in advocacy and CVA activities on child protection, World Vision also facilitates trainings for children and youth on child rights and rights violation reporting mechanisms. Most of the trainings take place in children's clubs, children's parliaments or during life skills trainings. In 2019, 11 369 children and youth were trained on child rights. In the seven out of nine programs that reported disaggregated data by sex 5682 of the trained children were girls and 4913 were boys. In three programs 78 disabled children were also reported to have participated in the trainings. Although the annual result shows clear improvement in comparison to the situation in 2018 (8081) this output is still behind its expected progress towards the 2021 target 75 443. The annual AP level results vary partly because of the different style of trainings provided. Child protection training that is provided through life skills trainings or community events reaches a wider group of children than training through child clubs. The training within children's clubs can, however, be more effective as the groups have more time to go into more details.

Although the number of children and youth trained is not as high as expected it seems that the trainings continue to be effective as the percentage of adolescents who know of the presence of child protection services and mechanisms increased in 2019 by 9 percentage points (from 80 % in 2018 to 89 %). Five out of eight programs were able to disaggregate their indicator data by sex. In these programs on average 76 % of girls and 75 % of boys were aware of the child protection systems and mechanisms. The outcome has been reported widely with only the youth employment specific projects and Santuk AP project not yet reporting their progress on this indicator. The youth employment project shave had difficulties in monitoring this indicator as child protection is not at the core of their project activities. The outcome indicator has now exceeded its 2021 target of 84 %. The end of the Programme target will be revised based on current progress. In addition to children's clubs and parliaments other child protection work also feeds into youth's knowledge on child protection services and mechanisms. For example, Rajnandgaon and Mogotio APs contributed their good progress on this indicator to well-functioning child protection units, advocacy campaigns on child protection as well as the improved child protection

systems. In our only urban AP in Busia, Uganda, the indicator results have fluctuated from year to year due to the rapid turnover of the population.

#### Adolescents' participation to decision making

The children's clubs and parliaments support children and youth to voice their own concerns and opinions and to participate in community-level decision-making in accordance with Article 12 in the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Children's and adolescents' right to opinion and full consideration of their opinions can be a controversial matter for adults who also control the access to those forums where important decisions are made. It is therefore important to also work with adults to educate them on children's rights and abilities for decision-making. The proportion of youth who report that their views are sought and incorporated into the local government's decision making increased in 2019 by 9 percentage points (from 36 % in 2018 to 45 % in 2019). Three out of the five programs that reported this indicator were able to provide data disaggregated by sex. Within those programs, 53 % of the girls and 55 % of the boys reported to have been included in local government's decision making. This indicator has reached its end of programme target (45 %) but it has only been reported by five out of seven targeted programs so far. This indicator is also susceptible to changes in local-level participation opportunities. For example, Ng'oswet AP performed remarkably better in this indicator in comparison to the year 2018 and was also the highest achieving AP in 2019. In 2019 the county where the AP is implemented in reviewed its Integrated Development Plan and many local youths were included in this process. These types of one-time events can create temporary peaks in the progress of the indicator. However, the high participation levels into these events also show positive signals on the community attitudes towards youth's participation as well as the youth's own motivation to partake in their local community matters.

#### Child-friendly communities

The number of functional child protection systems within the program and project areas is progressing very well to reach the target of 180 functional child protection systems by 2021. In 2019 World Vision's area development program locations had 61 more functional child protection systems. Altogether program areas have now 159 functioning child protection systems. As with other institutions and systems, it is very important that the Area Programs and projects also focus on making sure that the achievements are maintained after World Vision's support for the institutions and systems end. Having functional child protection units enhances children's experience on how safe their communities are for children as the units have an important role in advocating for children's rights as well as monitoring, preventing, and reporting any child protection violations. In 2019, there was an increase of 1 percentage point (from 73 % in 2018 to 74 %) in the percentage of children that felt that their communities are safe. The indicator has now achieved its 2021 target of 74 %. The end of the Programme target will not yet, however, be revised. There are still three Area Programs that have not yet reported their progress towards this indicator, and as child protection is one of the most important aspects of our AP work it is important to first achieve a universal level of reporting.

An interesting observation from the indicator data is that in our new Somalia Anti-FGM project over 90 % of children reported that their community is a safe place. What this indicates is that female genital mutilation which is almost universal in the project area is not yet perceived as a rights violation by the children but as a normal part of the community culture and female life. Indeed, usually the increase in advocacy and information sharing on rights also leads to the increase in number of reported rights violations. Therefore, high performance for this indicator does not necessarily signify an improvement in the child protection situation if advocacy work has not been done well.

Children's birth registration is essential for the realization of many of their rights. For example, a birth certificate is usually a requirement for school enrollment. Birth registration usually depends on the combination of parents' and caregivers' awareness of its importance, families' financial ability to pay for the registration and the availability of registration places. 7067 children under the age of five were registered in five APs in 2019. Two APs reported the children's sexes (1342 boys and 1507 girls). This is overall a slight decline to last year's result. The output is slightly behind both its annual and 2021 targets, but it should be noted that the indicator was only reported by five out of eight relevant APs. The three remaining APs reported their progress in percentages with an average of 92 % of children having birth certificates. World Vision Uganda is advocating the government to decentralize birth registration service delivery from district level closer to the communities. Currently many poor parents only have their child registered when the birth certificate is really required for instance for school enrolment.

# Lessons learned

Some of the existing challenges under Outcome 3 are the sustainability of child protection measures in the face of economic and other distresses and men's involvement in child protection advocacy work. The Programme does not directly monitor the prevalence of child rights violations in the implementation areas although the indicators should reflect the wider child right's situation in implementation areas through the children's own feeling of security and the community's perspective on children's rights and roles. The low number of reported child violation cases is however a challenge in our Asian APs. These APs still need to work on the quality of the child protection units and on the general awareness on all different types of child rights violations. For example, in Santuk AP the community has been discussing widely on negative impacts of corporal violence, but sexual violence is still a taboo of a sort. One issue in the APs in Uganda is the rise in child marriages. This is partly explained by the adherence to traditional cultural practices of some communities. It is important to make sure that child protection efforts reach all different community groups within the AP areas.

Although all output and outcome indicators progressed well in 2019 universal reporting remains a challenge in most indicators. All Programme indicators are not included in the APs own logical frameworks and therefore some APs have ended up reporting indicators that they monitor as part of their normal monitoring routine instead of the ones required within the Programme. The required indicators will be gone through with the Area Programs in detail in 2020 to increase the AP's understanding on what data is required as well as WVF's understanding on each APs capacity and ability to contribute to the data monitoring and reporting.

# 3.4. Outcome 4: Children enjoy the right to good health

Indicator	Baseline 2017	Status 2018	Status 2019	Target 2021	Projects reported
% of safe births	74 %	81 % (change +7 percentage points)	77 % (change – 4 percentage points)	91 %	<ul> <li>7/7</li> <li>Hoshangabad AP</li> <li>Rajnandgaon AP</li> <li>Busia AP</li> </ul>

					<ul> <li>Kirewa- Nabuyoga AP</li> <li>Ng'oswet AP</li> <li>Mogotio AP</li> <li>Santuk AP</li> </ul>
% of underweight children	19 %	20 % (change + 1 percentage point)	18 % (change – 2 percentage points)	16 %	<ul> <li>6/7</li> <li>Hoshangabad AP</li> <li>Rajnandgaon AP</li> <li>Busia AP</li> <li>Kirewa- Nabuyoga AP</li> <li>Ng'oswet AP</li> <li>Santuk AP</li> </ul>
% coverage of essential vaccines	83 %	83 % (change 0 percentage points)	84 % (change + I percentage point)	98 %	<ul> <li>7/7</li> <li>Hoshangabad AP</li> <li>Rajnandgaon AP</li> <li>Busia AP</li> <li>Kirewa- Nabuyoga AP</li> <li>Ng'oswet AP</li> <li>Mogotio AP</li> <li>Santuk AP</li> </ul>

Table 4: Outcome 4 status

# Introduction to the Outcome

WVF's Child Rights Programme's fourth Outcome is that "Children enjoy the right to good health". Families' and children's better health is promoted and monitored in all seven WVF supported APs. The progress towards the Outcome is monitored through three outcome and three output indicators (table 4). The focus of World Vision's health work is on access to quality health services and on protection against injuries, infections and deceases. The activities under this outcome include improving local health service provision and the quality of services through the CVA method and partnerships with local government, awareness-raising and teaching on nutrition, hygiene and health matters, rehabilitating malnourished children, constructing and supporting the rehabilitation of improved sanitation facilities as well as supporting the access to clean water for households, schools and health facilities. Community health volunteers and community health committees play an important role in monitoring the health situation of children and providing information to primary caregivers on nutrition, health and children's development.

#### **Progress in 2019**

The Outcome shows progress towards reaching its end of Programme targets in 2021 despite some AP specific challenges. The overall challenges under this Outcome deal mainly with reducing the impacts of extreme weather conditions on access to water as well as children's malnutrition.

#### Child mortality

In 2019, 3879 mothers in the AP areas attended at least four antenatal care (ANC) visits before the birth of their youngest child. This shows a slight increase from the year 2018 when 3596 mothers attended the required amount of ANC visits. This is a good progress towards reaching the end of Programme goal of 15 000 women who have attended ANC visits before the birth of their children. Antenatal visits are important for the health of the mother and the fetus and diminish the likelihood of maternal and child mortality. ANC visits are a significant part of the realization of women's sexual and reproductive health and rights. Health volunteers together with health care workers also encourage families to practise family planning. Family planning is still a challenge especially in our APs in India, where in average only 8 % of married women use contraceptives.

Attending antenatal care in local health facilities can also increase the probability of mother's seeking professional help for childbirth. Now 77 % of mothers report that a skilled birth attendant was present at the birth of their youngest child. This is a drop of four percentage points from 2018 (from 81 %) and the indicator is behind of reaching its 2021 goal (91 %). This downward progress can be attributed to Ng'oswet AP in Kenya where the number of safe births dropped dramatically in 2019 due to a three-month-long health worker's strike. During the strike nurses and doctors in the area were not working and women were forced to give birth at home. For other Area Programs the percentage of safe deliveries has remained stable in comparison to the situation in 2018.

#### Children's vaccinations

Health workers and health volunteers encourage caregivers to vaccinate their children to prevent the spread of diseases and infections. In 2019, 84 % of 12-59-month-old children had received all the essential vaccinations. This outcome indicator has essentially remained at the baseline for the past two years (baseline 83 %). The slow progress of this indicator can be partly contributed to the already high baseline figure. False beliefs and lack of knowledge on the real impacts of vaccination are also some of the remaining challenges in the APs. The indicator definition can also contribute to the stagnation of the indicator as vaccination cover is verified through vaccination cards and caregiver's recall. Caregivers have been reported to be unable to locate vaccination cards or not be able to recall which vaccinations their children have received. This has, for example, been the case in India, where the percentages keep fluctuating from one year to another.

#### Underweight children

Improving household's and communities' access to clean water, improved sanitation facilities as well as promoting hygiene practices all support children's protection from diseases and impact their biological development. In 2019, 53 % of households reported that they were able to access water from improved sources within 30 minutes. This output indicator has made slow positive progress in comparison to 2018 (51 %) and the baseline (52 %). The output is somewhat behind its 2021 target 78%). This indicator is heavily affected by weather conditions which affect the availability of water from different sources. Two out of seven APs, both in India, saw a marked drop to this indicator caused by the drought in 2019. Due to the drought, some water sources established through WV interventions dried up and in some, the water levels dropped causing lack of water in the areas. The indicator measures the access to safe water specifically during dry periods. Although the Area Programs in India have done many activities to improve water resilience and access to safe water, dry seasons are very demanding to the communities when they affect the level of ground water. Some of the biggest leaps forward were seen in the newest APs as WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) is usually one of the first themes WV starts to work on.

Use of good sanitation facilities, such as improved latrines or toilets is another important indicator that affects children's health. In 2019 75 % of households were using improved sanitation facilities. This is a slight drop from 2018 (78 %) but is still well above the baseline (64 %). The water scarcity also affects the progress of this indicator. In Hoshangabad AP in India some families opt to practice open defecation instead of using improved toilets as the former ones require less water. Some sanitation facilities have also been found to be in bad shape causing decreased use. This requires better monitoring for sustainability. Some APs such as Mogotio saw a significant improvement into this output indicator as the county government invested in the construction of several new improved sanitation facilities as a precaution to the awaited floods.

Better sanitation facilities and access to clean water together with good nutritional practices and access to quality health services all contribute to children's good nutritional situation. In 2019, 18 % of the 0-59-month-old children were underweight. This is an improvement both in comparison to last year's situation (20 %) and to the baseline (19 %) and shows progress towards the 2021 target (16 %) (table 4). WVF has already witnessed in its previous development programme cycles that the reduction of children's malnutrition and underweight happens remarkably slowly. Underweight is a complex issue that is associated not only with diet and eating habits but other social factors as well such as gender equality, women's excessive workload in agriculture and at home and the distribution of scarce family resources within the family. In many places community members still demonstrate a poor understanding towards the health benefits promoted by messages and services related to nutrition and on the ill-effects of childhood malnutrition. The work to reduce malnutrition and underweight will continue to tackle all these underlying issues.

#### Lessons learned

Although all indicators both at output and outcome level were reported at an almost universal level in 2019 some challenges on reporting remain. None of the programs were able to provide data disaggregation by sex or disability in 2019. This deficiency will be addressed in one to one discussions with the programs to assess the existing barriers for data disaggregation on health indicators. Programs that have not yet conducted a disability assessment will be supported for the same. The impact of climate change and weather conditions still pose threats to access to water in some AP areas. The APs need to look into different ways of supporting access to safe water also during extreme weather conditions together with the local governments. In APs in Asia especially, the families' poverty is still a challenge for children's nutrition. Although families are aware of the importance of nutrition all do not have access to nutritional food items. Nutrition work needs to be combined with increased efforts to support the families' livelihoods in these programs.

# 3.5. Outcome 5: Children enjoy the right to quality education

Indicator	Baseline 2017	Status 2018	Status 2019	Target 2021	Projects reported
% functional literacy	55 %	57 % (change +2 percentage points)	60 % (change +3 percentage points)	72 %	5/5 • Rajnandgaon AP • Busia AP

					•	Kirewa- Nabuyoga AP Ng'oswet AP Santuk AP
% basic education	63 %	67 %	80 %	82 %	3/5	
					•	Busia AP
		(change +4	(change +13		•	Ng'oswet AP
		percentage	percentage		•	Santuk AP
		points)	points)			

Table 5: Outcome 5 status

#### Introduction to the Outcome

WVF's Child Rights Program's fifth Outcome is that "Children enjoy the right to quality education". WVF does not implement any stand-alone projects on education within the APs. However, activities enhancing education are included in the child protection and community engagement and sponsorship projects of 5 APs and one special project. Progress towards the Outcome target is monitored through two outcome and three output indicators (table 5). WVF's efforts under this Outcome focus on improved access to and completion rate of basic education, and on improved reading, writing and numeracy skills which reflect the quality of the education. WVF supports the access to education and the quality of education for example through advocating for the importance of education and supporting children's learning, supporting the renovation and construction of safe school facilities including WASH and promoting better learning conditions through CVA, providing teacher training as well as supporting the culture of reading at community and household levels. Programs also provide remedial education and help school dropouts to re-enter their education. The Sook anti-FGM project has supported the construction of safe houses for girls fleeing from FGM. Now these safe houses provide 400 girls a place to live and to learn without the fear of violence. In Nakwijitin, one of the Sook project areas, the number of girl students have grown so much as a result of the safe houses that the local government has decided to establish an all girl's high school in the area. Before, many girls had to drop out of school because of child marriage and FGM. The safe houses have also been supported with tools for incomegeneration so that they are able to maintain themselves.

#### Progress in 2019

Overall, the Outcome 5 progressed satisfactorily in 2019. Some challenges in individual APs remained at outcome level. Two out of three output indicators showed progress as planned. One of the biggest challenges for the Outcome is to achieve 100 % reporting from all required programs. There has been some development on this in comparison to 2018 but still more work needs to be done.

#### Functional literacy

In 2019, 1621 parents or guardians actively participated in supporting their children's literacy development. This is a slight improvement from 2018 (1350 parents) but the indicator seems to be behind achieving its 2021 target (41 000 parents/guardians). It should, however, be noted that the output indicator was only reported by two out of five Area Programs in 2019 (one in 2018) which affects the slow progress of the indicator towards its end goal. This indicator is not embedded into any of the Area Program's logical frameworks and we have noticed that the programs have difficulties in monitoring and reporting indicators that are outside their own logical frameworks. We will hold discussion with the remaining three Area Programs in 2020 on their challenges on and possibilities for monitoring this indicator.

The support parent's give to their children's literacy development is important as it improves children's own views and motivation towards literacy learning and education, as well as reflects the value for education in the communities. According to the 2019 results, 60 % of the children in Grade 6 or equivalent could read with comprehension. This indicator was reported by all five relevant Area Programs and shows increase from 2018 (57 %) but still somewhat behind its 2021 target 72 % (table 5). Disaggregation by sex was only reported by Rajnandgaon AP where 39 % of the boys and 48 % of the girls were functionally literate. This result indicates that boys school performance is lower than girls. One reason for this can be that boys have to spend more time out of school supporting their families' livelihoods according to their gender roles. WVF will continue to support the Area Programs in gathering sex disaggregated data as this will help the programs to identify and address gender related challenges.

#### Primary school graduation

WV supports the communities we work with to use CVA as a tool to improve primary schools together with the local governments. The improvements can, for example, be having enough teachers and providing the children with school lunch. By 2019 altogether 92 schools within six Area Programs had been improved through the CVA process. Of these, 20 schools had been improved in 2019 within four APs. This is a good progress towards achieving our 2021 target of 200 improved schools in 6 APs. The quality of school facilities and of education affect children's school attendance as well as their performance. There was a thirteen-percentage point growth in 2019 in the percentage of 12-18-year-old children that have completed basic education/ primary schooling in comparison to the situation in 2018 (67 %) (table 5). Now 80 % of the children have completed basic education. The indicator seems to be making very rapid progress towards its 2021 target (82 %) but only three out of five Area Programs reported their progress towards the indicator in 2019. The considerable progress in comparison to 2018 can be mostly contributed to figures from Ng'oswet AP in Kenya where the county government has done many investments into improving the existing learning environments in order to enhance children's school attendance.

WVF also supports children's enrollment into early childhood education as this supports children's overall development, prepares them for primary education and enhances child protection as children have a safe place where to stay when parents are working. Establishing and rehabilitating early childhood development centers in the communities also enhance women's opportunities for income generation and thus support gender equality. In 2019, 28 EDCs in four Area Programs were established or rehabilitated through World Vision's support. Altogether 126 EDCs have now been rehabilitated or established in the Area Program areas which is a good progress towards achieving the 2021 target of 200 EDCs in five Area Program areas.

#### Lessons learned

The main challenges identified under this Outcome in 2019 are the low number of programs reporting on the output indicator on parent's involvement in children's literacy development, and the lack of sex and disability disaggregated data for most Area Programs. Based on our previous monitoring data as well as the results of the Action Research summarized under Outcome 2 we perceive that the school enrollment and attendance of disabled children is a major challenge in all the Area Program areas. For instance, according to the Action Research 59.5% of the children with disability in Busia AP are not attending school. We will support the Area Programs to collect and to report sex and disability disaggregated data on education to further enhance our efforts to support all children's access to quality education. In addition to these challenges, some of the existing identified challenges for children's right to education include the child labour, fragile household incomes and lack of good sanitation facilities at schools as well as lack of school lunches. These issues are tackled within WVF's Child Rights Programme under Outcomes one and three on improved provision for and the better protection of children.

3.6. Outcome 6: Finnish citizens understanding of current issues in development policy and positive attitude towards development cooperation has increased

Indicator	Baseline 2017	Status 2018	Status 2019	Target 2021
Percentage	84 % of Finns	88 % of Finns	89 % of Finns	Remains at least
of Finns who think	(2016 survey)	(2018 survey)	(2019 survey)	at the baseline
that				level
development				
cooperation				
and development				
policy				
is important				
Percentage	30,8 % (2017	36,3%	71,4 % are well	Annual growth of
of World Vision	survey)		informed of global	2 %
Finland			development	
supporters who			policy objectives	
are			in 2019	
well informed of				
global				
development				
policy				
objectives				

Table 6: Outcome 6 status

# Introduction to the Outcome

The sixth Outcome of World Vision Finland's Child Rights Programme is that Finnish citizens understanding of current issues in development policy and positive attitude towards development cooperation has increased. This outcome consists of World Vision Finland's communication and advocacy actions. The progress towards the Outcome is monitored through two outcome and four output indicators (table 6).

# Progress in 2019

In order to achieve the Outcome goal in 2019, we delivered stories and information through our social media channels, electronic newsletter (30 000 subscribers, 8 issues) and World Vision magazine (two issues, first focusing this year on *disability* and *humanitarian aid*, total circulation spring issue 6500 and autumn issue 23 000). We published 46 web news articles and 12 press releases, produced and edited 16 video stories and organised one press conference. Our focus on media work resulted in diverse media coverage; several in-depth articles and interviews which allowed us to reach large audiences with development aid and policy themes. One challenging factor for us in the past has been trying to cover too many themes at the same time. Strengthening our focus on child protection and other main themes has helped us to make our communication more effective.

The main themes in 2019 were *child protection, youth employment* and *disability*. Within child protection, we focused on FGM and other issues related to violence against children. Throughout the year we had meetings with and served journalists by providing information related to development policy and cooperation and organized 5 study/media and/or content gathering trips. A study trip to Cambodia alone generated 40 articles that were published both online and in print. In total WVF's work generated 687 media hits in 2019. This number includes all hits regardless of their size so more fruitful is to monitor the number of interviews and larger reportages/features in major media. During the operational year, our experts and spokespeople were interviewed e.g. in Yle Aamu-tv, Huomenta Suomi and Yle Puhe and Turun Sanomat (Total circulation 76 291). Large feature stories were published among others in Ilta-Sanomat (reaches 2,5 million Finns on average) and in Sunnuntaisuomalainen (reaches over one million Finns on average) focusing e.g. on youth employment and maternal health. We also organized a seminar focusing on reforestation in Sub-Saharan Africa. It was attended by an award-winning FMNR Advisor, Tony Rinaudo, and his visit generated media hits e.g. in Maaseudun tulevaisuus.

During the year we have produced a steady flow of interesting material in social media that focuses clearly on our main themes while emphasizing results and children's own voice. The number of followers in our social media channels grew by 5,7% (20 268 followers at the end of 2019). This is an acceptable growth rate but comes short of our target of 10 % slightly. However, the number of impressions displaying our content to the audience in those channels surpassed our target with major growth: 9 781 040 million impressions compared to 5 029 407 impressions in 2018 (target 10 % annual growth). Our social media posts received 153 835 engagements in all channels combined. This is slightly less than in 2018 and is below our annual target (10 % annual growth). This indicates a change in people's behaviour in social media channels. Liking, commenting and sharing are no longer in general as common as before. We have also changed our messaging slightly in 2019 and as a result, are receiving far fewer negative comments to our content, thus most likely resulting in less overall engagement. The social media channels' ever-changing algorithms and reporting metrics make them challenging indicators and thus they need to be assessed when planning future actions. However, for the time being, these metrics provide as appropriate a tool as possible to measure the impact/effectiveness of our communication.

Our supporter survey also revealed that the percentage of our supporters who are well informed of global development objectives has grown significantly from 36,3 % to 71,4%. Besides mentioning those objectives in our communications materials, we published an article focusing solely on the SDGs both in World Vision magazine (2/2019) as well as on our webpage. This probably explains to some extent the rise in numbers but naturally combined with the other media coverage that global development issues have gotten.

The number of World Vision supporters who are informed of the results of WVF's development cooperation has stayed close to the baseline figure (86%) being now at 85,49 %. In addition, a total of 89 % of Finns (survey 2019) think that development cooperation and development policy is important. This means the public support is on a very strong level and above the baseline figure of 84%. In order to contribute to these objectives, we have been emphasizing *results* in all our communications.

# 4. Partner Countries

# 4.1. AFRICA

In 2019 the Programme was implemented in four Area Programs and five special thematical projects in five countries in Africa: Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and Somalia. Ethiopia and Somalia are new countries in the WVF Programme portfolio.

# 4.1.1. Ethiopia

• Assisted Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) for Sustainable Land Management and Livelihood Project 2019-2021 (total duration 2019-2023)

#### Implementation context

While the economy has been growing rapidly in the past ten years, Ethiopia remains one of the poorest countries in the region. With a population of nearly 110 million people, the country has suffered from long-term deforestation since the 1950s due to population pressure and recurrent droughts. Over 80% of the population are dependent on agriculture and natural resources for their livelihood. The Government of Ethiopia aims to reach lower-middle-income status by 2025, an ambitious vision that guides the current national development strategy known as the Second Growth and Transformation Plan (2015/16-2020/21). In support of the GTPII, the government is implementing a new Climate Resilient Green Economy Strategy (CRGE), which consists of reforestation and building of carbon stocks. The strategy aims to protect Ethiopia from the adverse effects of climate change and to build a green economy that enables the country to reach its development objectives. World Vision's method of Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMRN), which this project is built on, feeds into the CRGE and thereby the GTPII, by restoring carbon, biodiversity, and health of the natural systems that provide a sustainable livelihood for the local communities.

The political climate in Ethiopia has seen positive developments since 2018 with the election of the new prime minister, Abiy Ahmed, who has been credited for improving the human rights and security situation in the country. However, the favorable reforms took a negative turn in 2019 with the onset of largely ethnic conflict and breakdown, resulting in heightened instability. Grievances over access to land fueled by masses of internally displaced people throughout the country remain serious concerns for political stability. In the project area these outbreaks of conflict can affect implementation by restricting domestic travel as well as the ability to organize larger community gatherings. In 2019 the government increased its security measures in the Wolaita zone where the project is located; however, there were no reported disturbances to the project.

# Partnerships and civil society

Civil society in Ethiopia experienced a government crackdown during the period between 2005-2018, with legal restrictions in place to limit the freedom of association and work on human rights. The appointment of the new prime minister saw a series of reforms aimed at opening the civic space in the country. Perhaps the most notable development in 2019 was the new piece of legislation that was ratified to provide a framework for CSO's existence and operation in the country, granting organizations more freedom to self-regulate, self-administer, and operate in their respective fields.

As for most NGO operations, the relationship with the local government is integral to success with World Vision. This FMRN project was launched in July 2019, and the remaining year was spent largely on setting up the foundation and the necessary structures, including legal registration of the cooperatives. Establishing strong partnerships with the local government and the chief district administrator was pivotal, as the land allocated for the regeneration is legally owned by the government. The project is similarly reliant on the local communities, who are given legal user rights to the land through the cooperatives, which are supported by WV through capacity building and training on various issues related to forest management and climate change. The table below details some of the key partners and their achievements WV has contributed to in 2019.

Name of partner	Role in the project	Main achievement in 2019
Forest management Cooperatives	Practice the FMRN method on the allocated forest land, to manage the seedling nurseries	A total of 8 new cooperatives established, with 1,266 members (342 women, 69 disabled, of which 21 women and 48 men).
Cooperative Development Office	One of the key stakeholders in the project, in charge of oversight of cooperatives and their administrative and operational duties	Participating in project launch and sharing visit in neighbouring districts where FMRN has been practiced previously. Increased capacity through trainings.
District level line departments (Environment, Forest, and Climate Change)	Assist in forming the cooperatives into a Forestry Union to increase their bargaining power. Regularly monitor the carbon stock measurements. Oversee the union activity and act in a supervisory role.	Capacity building training was carried out in the second half of 2019, coordinated field monitoring was also carried out to ensure line dept's are aware and capable to perform their roles and responsibilities.
Project Steering Committee (formed of the District Chief Administrator; Environment, Forest and Climate Change Office; Cooperative Development Office; Agriculture and Natural Resources Office)	Provide support and have oversight of the progress, achievements and challenges throughout the project.	Steering committee formed, consisting of all key stakeholders.

Table 7: Main achievements with project partners in 2019

#### Sustainability and risks

Community ownership and active leadership in the cooperatives are integral to the sustainability of the project. Due to the significant success achieved in the neighboring districts of Sodo and Humbo, where FMRN has been practiced for over 10 years, the community members have been eager to join the cooperatives and get started on the activities. Having witnessed the possible outcomes, the community members are actively taking ownership of the project and laying the foundation for implementation has been easy. Continuous training of not only the cooperatives but the local government line departments and officials has been done to ensure the sufficient capacity and skills exist to carry out the regeneration, adequate monitoring and carbon stocking independently.

Increasing women's participation in the cooperatives has been a challenge due to the traditional gender roles typically present in the Ethiopian society. There is a risk of unequal benefit-sharing between men and women, which is why WV is actively encouraging women to join the cooperatives and take up leadership positions, training is also provided to key stakeholders ensure gender is mainstreamed throughout all project activities. After the first six months of cooperatives' membership registration,

37% of the members were women, which can be seen as an achievement in the context of rural Ethiopia. Extreme weather events and climate shocks pose reoccurring risks as droughts, floods and landslides threaten the nurseries and the forest areas. Key stakeholders are trained on climate change effects and training and support is provided to build community resilience.

# 4.1.2. Kenya

- Mogotio Area Program 2018-2021 (total duration 2007-2022)
- Ngoswet Area Program 2018-2021 (total duration 2014-2030)
- Roysambu Youth Livelihood Project 2018-2021
- Sook Anti-FGM and reproductive health project 2018-2021

#### Implementation context

While some parts of Kenya continued to suffer from insecurity related to the situation in neighbouring Somalia, the country remained mainly stable in 2019. The next Presidential elections (2021) have started having increasing impact on politics thereby drawing attention away from national development. Rather little progress was made in the implementation of President Uhuru's so-called Big Four agenda for creating more jobs, improving food security and providing better health care services, although there were some efforts by the President to tackle corruption. As a result of more tight scrutiny of infrastructure projects a planning of construction of a dam near Ngoswet to benefit agriculture was put on hold. Kenya's GDP growth slightly declined in 2019 as agricultural production was affected by low rainfall and prolonged droughts with the counties at risk to climate change impacts being those in the arid and semi-arid land where also three of WVF's programs are located. In World Vision's APs in Western Kenya access to safe water is one of the biggest challenges that communities face. The drought in 2019 affected the access to water and the low agricultural production levels also the AP areas. Hence, the main objectives of Mogotio AP and Ngoswet AP are improved access of households and communities (including schools and health centres) to clean and safe water integrated with improved sanitation and hygiene. Furthermore, both programs support the development of livelihood opportunities and food security where the availability of water is naturally critical. In the same time, the AP's do a lot of work to make communities more resilient to climate change for example through developing climate-smart agriculture and disaster preparedness. Natural disasters including those related to climate change like flash floods are a threat also in the urban context, especially in informal settlements. Therefore, the development of community preparedness is part of activities in the Youth Employment Project in Nairobi as well. In August 2019 Kenya conducted a population and housing census that provides critical data for development planning for different levels of administration.

WV Finland's work in Kenya is aligned with WV Kenya's strategy that focuses on improved livelihoods and strengthening family resilience, and that contributes to *Kenya Vision 2030* - the long-term development blueprint for the country launched in 2008. Furthermore, WVF's work contributes well to all the Impact Areas of *Finland's Country Strategy for Development Cooperation in Kenya 2014-2019*, and more specifically to *Impact 1* (Accountable devolved governance), Outcome 1.1: Increased accountability in county-level governance and Outcome 1.2: Improved access to water and sanitation services in selected counties, *Impact 2* (Improved access to jobs and livelihoods), Outcome 2.1: Increased productivity and economic opportunities in forestry and agriculture, and *Impact 3* (Women's and girl's rights), Outcome 3.2: Sexual and gender-based violence addressed in selected counties. The Sook antiFGM project contributes to Finland's SRHR policy objectives while the Roysambu Youth Employment Project implemented in informal settlements of Nairobi is well in line with Kenya Vision 2030 and government's strong emphases on youth and job creation.

# Partnerships and civil society

Partnerships with other civil society organisations and local government are at the core of World Vision's mode of operations. In Kenya WV has also partnered with the private sector in testing innovative solutions to development challenges in recent years. Most of WV's work is trilateral cooperation with local authorities and communities, often organized as community-based groups (CBO). A good case in point is Area Coordination Committees consisting of authorities and civil society representative that work in child protection and contribute to enhanced community-led childcare and protection that are key objectives of WVF's work in Kenya. ACCs are critical in tackling gender inequality, child marriage and violence against girls including FGM that are among the issues that WVF is addressing in both APs and in the Sook special project. WV Finland and WV Kenya are also implementing an UNFPA-funded anti-FGM project in four other counties of Kenya using the approach tested in Sook project.

In both Area Programs in Kenya, WV has established strong partnerships with County governments that are becoming more and more important in Kenya's devolved governance, and national government ministries. In Mogotio AP, the cooperation with authorities has been particularly close as the AP is improving water infrastructure together with the Ministry of Water and Irrigation and thereby sharing risks as well as costs of expensive investments. As a token of good partnership in Mogotio, WV is represented in Baringo County Development Advisory Council. Assisting children to acquire birth certificates is another area where a partnership with authorities is critical. Counties in Kenya are less than a decade old and still developing. Therefore, WV's partnership with the local governments has a certain capacity-building element as county officials take part in program planning and review processes facilitated by WV and get access to data collected by WV.

WV has supported different civil society organisations to participate in the County level Integrated Development Plan planning processes and in County level budgeting. This has increased the civil society and its organisations' understanding of County level politics and has enabled them to influence plans and budgeting more effectively. For example, in Mogotio a CVA group was able to advocate for the County to equip a borehole sink with solar power. In Sook, a CVA group was able to influence the implementation of government's policy of free primary and secondary education by demanding authorities that secondary schools receive government bursary and primary schools received sanitary towels. In the latter case, civil society's activity contributed both to the right for education as well as to gender equity and SRHR. The Roysambu Youth Livelihood Project provided capacity building training to several local children and women's rights CBOs in the implementation area. The capacity building was based on mappings on the CBOs most prevalent needs and focused for example on enabling a higher level of financial independence for the CBOs.

In line with WV's strategic focus on disability inclusion, the capacity of local disabled people's organisation (DPO) has been developed as well. For instance, the Youth Employment Project supported the formation and registration of two DPOs in Roysambu area of Nairobi and provided them with capacity building to promote and advocate for the rights of people with disabilities and their families.

In recent years World Vision has implemented a number of projects in Kenya with Finnish private sector companies, and with funding from Finnpartnership. In 2019, a short pilot project with a focus on testing online learning with 16 primary school teachers was conducted in Ngoswet AP with Claned – a Finnish company that is providing digital learning solutions. The Finnish Baby Aid Kit-project continued its implementation in collaboration with Logonet. Similar projects were implemented both in Turkana as a separate project, as well as within the Ng'oswet AP area. These were funded by Finnpartnership, but within Ng'oswet the impact will support the mother and child health of the beneficiaries of the MFA funded programme. WVF also continued to collaborate with a Finnish company 8rafiki Oy in Nairobi by providing their employees with work life and life skills trainings. Some of the employees in the company are former WVF Youth Livelihood Project beneficiaries. WVF implemented a Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry funded Transformational clean water solution in emergency context project with Finnish company Solar Water Solutions in three different locations in Kenya. The project ended in 2019 and was implemented outside the MFA funded program areas.

Name of partner	Role in the project	Main achievement in 2019
Ministry of Water and Irrigation	Coordination and cooperation at a technical level	Joint funding of Chemasin water project in Mogotion. Joint funding of Kaptegaa and Katumoi water projects in Ngoswet.
County Governments (Baringo, Elgeyo-Marakwet, West Pokot) and their departments	Project planning and monitoring	MoU between WV and Baringo County government to equip Magoi borehole with solar power by the County.
Sub-county offices (health, children, education, registrar of person etc.)	Coordination and cooperation at a technical level	In Mogotio, 1445 children assisted to acquire birth certificates. 101 children (62 girls and 39 boys) from Mogotio sub county notified to register with National Council for People with Disability at the county level.
Area Advisory Councils (AAC), Local Area Advisory Council (LAAC)	Coordination frameworks for child protection	In Mogotio, strengthening the County ACC at the sub county level (LAAC). In Sook, three FGM cases referred to police. Training activities for members of LAACs in Ngoswet.
Citizen Voice and Action groups in Mogotio and Ngoswet	Community mobilization for advocacy	In Mogotio, 491 community members mobilized to participate in budget making process by the Baringo county and social accountability carried out of classroom construction funded by Mogotio constituency development fund and Baringo County government. In Ngoswet advocacy led to employment of staff in Emsea dispensary and construction for full housing for facility staff by

the County and al	location of more
funds to Simit disp	ensary.

Table 8: Main achievements with program partners in 2019

# Sustainability and risks

Since farming is the main source of income for the households in WV's APs in Kenya, extreme weather conditions pose a serious risk for families and program implementation. Both area programs are in drought-prone semi-arid areas, but experience frequently flash floods during rainy seasons. Therefore, building household and community resilience is critical from the view of sustainability and the development of disaster preparedness and mitigation strategies are included in WV's work in Kenya. One of the key strategies is the promotion of climate-smart agriculture to ensure food security under climate change for example by increasing farm productivity in a sustainable manner. One key approach to develop resilience to climate extremes is Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration - a low-cost, sustainable land restoration technique that is used for increasing food and timber production. More advanced technical innovations and solutions can be used to enhance sustainability and mitigated risks. In Mogotio WV piloted the use of automated water metering which will reduce wastage of water and increase revenue collection thereby enhancing sustainability. Automated water metering will also increase transparency and reduce the risks related to handling cash.

# 4.1.3. Rwanda

• Buliza Youth Empowerment Partnership Project 2018-2021 (total duration 2017-2021)

# Implementation context

The Buliza Youth Empowerment Partnership Project supports the realization of many of the Government of Rwanda Vision 2020 goals. The main government goal the project advances is the creation of off-farm jobs and advancing women and girls' education and employment. In 2019, the project supported the realization of this goal by facilitating vocational, financial and business training to 50 youth (33 women, 17 men, two of them persons with disabilities) who have started their own off-farm businesses in the rural areas of the Rulindo District. The project also supports the creation of savings groups and cooperatives and supports youth to start other income-generating activities both off-farm and within agriculture or animal husbandry. In 2019 the project supported the formation of ten new savings groups.

The political and social situation of the country and project implementation area have been stable in 2019 and have not affected the project implementation in the past year. The project collaborates closely with different government and other local entities such as Rulindo District and Mbogo Sector staff, Business Development Fund, police and vocational training schools. The project is implemented in Rulindo District which is prone to natural disasters. In 2019 the district witnessed mudslides, erosion and earthquakes. The project has provided training on disaster preparedness and disaster mitigation as well as supports the beneficiaries to apply environmentally friendly farming techniques. The project aims to form disaster preparedness groups in the implementation area in 2020.

# **Partnerships and civil society**

The project does not directly work with civil society actors in the project area but focuses on strengthening the youth and communities through individual economic empowerment. Due to its focus on youth's economic empowerment, the project has a low risk of being affected by any potential human rights or civil society restrictions in the country. The government of Rwanda prioritizes women's employment and supports disability inclusion. The project is disability-inclusive and advocates for disability inclusion amongst its implementation partners such as government actors and vocational training schools. The project also aims to improve the financial and educational support provided to the vulnerable youth through its partnerships with the local technical vocational training schools and financial institutions.

In 2019 the project conducted a market analysis on profitable vocations in the implementation area. The results of the analysis were shared with the vocational training schools for them to provide training on profitable vocations. The project advocates for the change in the standards for becoming cooperation as the current standards make it hard for poor groups to successfully go through the cooperation registration process. In 2019 the project continued to support the local police in efforts to fight against drug use, substance abuse and other harmful practices amongst the youth. The project trained 40 volunteers to further spread messages on where and how to get support for addiction or in other difficult situations, effects of drug use, alcoholism, prostitution and early marriages, sexually transmitted diseases and domestic abuse. The main achievements the project achieved in 2019 with its partners are listed in table 9 below.

Name of partner	Role in the project	Main achievement in 2019
Technical Vocational Training	Providing vocational training to	Providing vocational training to 50
Schools	selected beneficiaries	youth. Completed a market
		assessment on profitable vocations
		in the implementation area
		together with TVETS and other
		partners.
Business Development Fund	Training business mentors for	25 youth (15 women, 10 men
	youth	including 4 persons with
		disabilities) were trained as
		mentors for savings groups and
		cooperative members on income
		generation, business development,
		financial literacy, and
		entrepreneurship.

Table 9: Main achievements with project partners in 2019

# Sustainability and risks

The main ways the project creates sustainability is through partnerships with local government, financial institutions and training facilities and improving household and community resilience to financial and environmental shocks. The project has been successful in improving individual household economic situations which is proven by the positive monitoring results on previous years beneficiaries' livelihood situation. However, there are still challenges in supporting the creation of registered cooperatives that

would bring more sustainability and stability to member households. The project continues to advocate for easier registration terms and continues to support financial management and saving to help groups complete the cooperation registration process. The project has been successful in training beneficiaries in disaster preparedness and mitigation. The next goal is to establish disaster preparedness groups to better enable the communities to prepare for and mitigate natural disasters. The project's partnerships with local government, business and financial institutions and schools are progressing as planned, and partners are actively involved in the planning and implementing project activities and in monitoring beneficiaries' progress.

# 4.1.4. Somalia

• Acceleration of FGM/Cutting Abandonment Project 2019-2021 (total duration 2019-2021)

#### Implementation context

With an internationally backed government and one-person-one vote elections planned later in 2020, Somalia has a window to move towards security and stability. The success will depend on its Federal Government, Federal Member States and other stakeholders embracing dialogue to tackle its many challenges, including the persistent threat posed by the Al-Shabaab.

The project is implemented in Puntland, one of the autonomous regions within Somalia. The independent cabinet position has meant that civil servants' tasks in this region have largely been handled without federal input. The project supports the Puntland Governments efforts to end FGM in the area. While the constitution of Somalia has articles that are geared to protecting the dignity and equality of girls and prohibit FGM as degrading, it has been interpreted as not to cover the *sunna* -type of cutting leading to the continuance of the tradition. The Sexual Offences Act addressing the harmful practices was enacted by the Puntland Government in 2016, but this has not explicitly addressed female genital mutilation and cutting, and its implementation has been questionable. With the absence of provisions of the current laws governing the elimination of FGM, the Puntland government has developed anti-FGM legislation that is awaiting parliamentary approvals. Through advocacy efforts from the FGM/cutting abandonment project, the anti-FGM legislation of Puntland will have a zero-tolerance approach, clearly forbidding all types of FGM, including *sunna*.

# Partnerships and civil society

The project's goal is to reduce FGM through public and alternative livelihoods opportunities for women and girls in the Puntland State of Somalia. To reach this, World Vision is working closely with authorities as well as with civil society actors, especially CBOs.

The project has engaged community committees in five villages and built their knowledge and understanding on harmful cultural practices for them to spread out the prevention messages of FGM. The training of various committees and provision of skills helped them to manage issues on protecting women and children through community dialogue and conversations. Village leaders were oriented on policies and laws supporting the prevention of FGM. The impact of them standing in front of the community as respected leaders openly agreeing to fight against FGM in collaboration with police and other government institutions has been significant. The project partnered with two-line ministries, the Ministry of Women and Family Affairs and the Ministry of Justice and Religious Affairs. MoUs were drawn with the Ministries to spell out terms and conditions of engagement. In addition, the first year of implementation has focused on fostering a good working relationship with the local police, community health workers and religious leaders, to improve and strengthen the prevention and response of FGM cases in the community. Further, the training of faith and religious leaders has created a team of sheikhs who are doing advocacy for children in local courts and on matters that affect women and children in the congregational teams.

Name of partner	Role in the project	Main achievement in 2019
Ministry of Justice and Religious Affairs	Government representative and policy changers	Anti-FGM legislation that is awaiting parliamentary approval. The Ministry has drawn a road map of passing FGM bill that consists and involves different stakeholders including community, civil society, faith community, doctors and government institutions
Ministry of Women and Family Affairs	Government representative and policy changers	Agreement on collaboration to work against GBV especially FGM. There was a reluctancy to provide support to the project from the Ministry of Women due to lack of capacity and political will. After lengthy discussions, agreement was reached for the justification of the project and thus support of the Ministry was reached.
Religious and Village leaders	Opinion changers and advocacy agents	Trainings and alternative rites of passage. 31 (21 male and 10 female) religious leaders and WV staff were trained. 3 village leaders agreed to support the process of alternative rites of passage and they identified 3 female teachers in their villages to be their mentors and guide them to advocate for positive change in their community.

Table 10: Main achievements with project partners in 2019

# Sustainability and challenges

The main ways the project creates sustainability is through partnerships with local government, religious and local leaders including former cutters. Further improving household and community knowledge on the negative impacts of FGM and supporting their resilience to financial shocks will support the sustainability by ensuring that girls do not need to be married off early to receive a dowry, but can be given the chance for education. Having the religious leaders as active partners is crucial, as most community members do not want to give up the *sunna* cut as they believe it is required by the religion.

There was a delay in starting implementation due to lack of clarity of Ministry department's role as they wanted to be sub-granted all project activities and were not supportive of a project implemented by an NGO. After discussions, clarity was reached, MoU:s could be signed, and implementation started. The current support from the Ministries enables implementation and provides security creating accessibility in districts where work is implemented.

The team-review tool helped to verify, the challenge of lack of trust, that is present everywhere. The context requires additional time and carefulness to ensure safe and sustainable implementation. As an example, village savings and loan association groups establishment in two villages was delayed due to the community members lack of trust towards the saving and loans program. Village leaders and village committee requested more time for internal discussion around this topic. This dialogue will continue.

# 4.1.5. Uganda

- Kirewa-Nabuyoga Area Program 2018-2021 (total duration 2004-2013)
- Busia Municipal Council Area Program 2018-2021 (total duration 2009-2025)
- Action Research on Children with Disabilities (2018-2019)
- Kituntu ex-post evaluation 2019

# Implementation context

The economy of Uganda has great potential for growth and development with the GDP growth increasing from 3.9% in 2017 to 6.2% in 2018. At the same time, the country has one of the youngest populations in the world as more than half of its 45 million population (57.8%) is below 18 years and 35% are adolescents. The young population is an asset, but also a challenge for the country. WVF's program contributes to WV Uganda's strategy that is aligned with Uganda's National Development Plan (NDP III). Uganda was stable in 2019 but political unrest started increasing as the next elections will be held at the beginning of 2021. One implication of the approaching elections has been the creation of some new administrative structures in the country, including in Tororo district where Kirewa-Nabuyoga AP is located. Under President Museveni's authoritarian rule basic human rights and freedoms are not always fully respected which is hampering the development of civil society, and thereby sustainable development.

Districts were WV's programs are located are politically stable, but Kirewa-Nabuyoga area is prone to floods and droughts, while Busia being a border town is sometimes affected by border closures as a result of political and trade controversies between Uganda and Kenya. In 2019 WV started a new privately funded AP in the Northern Uganda.

# Partnerships and civil society

Partnerships with local government (political leadership and technical staff) and other civil society actors (other NGOs, CBOs, Faith-based organizations, action groups, networks etc.) are crucial for WV's implementation and the sustainability strategy in both APs. Program objectives within child protection, health, food security or agricultural value chains development could not be achieved without effective collaboration and coordination with authorities, community groups and corporates. To align WV's programs as much as possible with local governments' development plans district and municipal representatives always participate in APs' annual planning meetings as well as review meetings where projects' performance against set benchmarks are assessed jointly with communities. These processes are essential for WVs accountability towards beneficiaries, ownership of community assets and buy-in to programme interventions by the local government. Participation in these processes also build stakeholders' capacity and enhance mutual acceptance as equal partners.

WV's support to Child Protection Coalitions that have representatives both from authorities (police, local administration, local political leadership) and from the civil society is a good case in point of WV's dual approach of partnerships and strengthening of civil society. In Busia, WV's work in the health sector is a prime example of strong cooperation with local government as WV supported Village Health Teams play a crucial role in promoting maternal and child health. On the other hand, local Citizen Voice and Action advocacy team in Busia has made a significant contribution to the improvement of quality of service delivery and increased resource allocation to health services. In Kirewa-Nabuyoga, the main objective of the AP is improved livelihoods. Consequently, CVA work has been focusing on lobbying government for implementing its own policies regarding the commercialization of agriculture and for improved service delivery in the agricultural sector. In 2019, for example, CVA teams sensitised farmers on government's policies, and lobbying led to the recruitment of more agricultural officers to subcounties to meet the growing demand for advisory services by the farmers.

Kirewa-Nabuyoga AP is coordinating its activities closely with an EU-funded green agriculture project in Tororo district that WV Finland is part of. Last year, for example, the AP and the EU project jointly organized a district stakeholder's dialogue on green growth attended by more than 120 stakeholders drawn from Tororo district's political and civic leadership, all the district counsellors, religious leaders, cultural leaders, sub-county leaders and CVA practitioners. A CSO statement was presented and generated with a commitment to conserve the environment in the district.

Name of partner	Role in the project	Main achievement in 2019
Kirewa and Nabuyoga sub- counties' Child Protection Committees (CPC), Child and Family Protection Unit of Police, Faith leaders.	Coordination frameworks and partners in child protection and child rights promotion	Capacity building of 30 (10 F, 20 M) CPC members and joint monitoring on child protection sector by different stakeholders followed by a sub-county dialogue meeting, and eventually formulation of the ordinance on child protection to be ratified by the Ministry of Justice. The budget for Probation and Welfare Department in Tororo was increased from 2 million to 10.3 million shillings.
Kirewa Farmers Development Association	Provide training in farming practises and value chain development	In Kirewa-Nabuyoga, the capacity of 500 farmers (230 M 270 F) were built in selected models such as Local Seed Business and Local Value Chain Development.
Kirewa-Nabuyoga Citizen Voice and Action groups	Advocacy work and community mobilization.	32 practitioners were trained in government's policy on commercializing agriculture and engagement with relevant authorities led to recruitment of more extension workers in the district.
Busia Citizen Voice and Action group	Advocacy and community mobilization	Child protection and education policy sensitizations for 210 members of school management and administration structures for

		the 7 primary schools resulted in adoption of school feeding programme in 3 more primary schools. Three community gatherings were conducted at Busia Health Centre IV reaching a total of 315 people (government stakeholders and community representatives) to discuss quality of service and allocation of resources. As a result, the budget for drugs for health centres was increased from 7 million to 11 million and staffing level increased to 80% (as compared to just less than 60% few years back.
National Identification and Registration Authority (NIRA)	Issuance of birth certificates	NIRA was facilitated to bring their services closer to the people through organising institutional and community based outreaches as a form of decentralising the birth registration process to reduce on costs (especially travel related) incurred by caregivers in registering their children (in 2019: 1,404 children (691 boys, 713 girls)).

Table 11: Main achievements with program partners in 2019

# Sustainability and risks

Working with various partners such as the local government, in addition to local ownership, and local advocacy work are key drivers of sustainability that are built into WV's program approach as described in the previous section. The fourth sustainability driver is household and family resilience which is perhaps the most critical one as it's closely related to livelihoods and survival of the poor and vulnerable people.

Kituntu Area Programme that started its operations in 1997 and ended in 2010 implemented in four technical projects: Child Protection, Education, Resilience and Livelihoods and Health and WASH. The ex-post evaluation aimed at assessing the impact and sustainability of World Vision intervention by qualitatively and quantitatively examining whether outcomes on key indicators had remained static or changed several years following closure. As one of the key findings of the ex-post evaluation, the awareness of child rights among caregivers was very high and had increased from the level at the AP closure, but on the other hand respondents in the household survey attested to a rise in child abuse in the period under review. At the same time enrolment in government primary schools in Kituntu had steadily declined from 2010 to 2019 while students' performance at the Primary Leaving Examinations (UPE) had continue to improve with more children passing. Regarding health and WASH indicators like the proportion of households having access to clean and safe water and to a latrine these we at high level. On the other hand, most of the water points constructed by WV were no longer operational and other infrastructure were not well maintained. The Ex-post Evaluation Report on Kituntu AP is included as an Annex.

The economy and livelihoods in Kirewa-Nabuyoga is dependent on rain-fed agriculture and therefore as climate change continues to affect weather patterns - building community resilience remains a critical objective for WV. To this end, improving agricultural productivity, diversifying production and developing value chains are key actions implemented in the AP. Equally, savings and loans associations at the village level have an important role in building resilience by helping families to diversify their sources of income and thereby mitigating food insecurity. In Kirewa-Nabuyoga, WV is also disseminating weather information from the Uganda National Meteorological Authority thereby helping the farmers to decide when to plant.

# 4.2. ASIA

The Programme was implemented in 2019 through three Area Programs in two countries in Asia, Cambodia and India.

# 4.2.1. Cambodia

• Santuk Area Program 2017-2022 (total duration 2017-2032)

#### Implementation context

Cambodia's economy has continued to grow steadily, largely due to the influx of foreign, particularly Chinese investment. Despite the impressive GDP growth, hindrances in various areas of development persist, including health and education - stunting and malnutrition of children under 5 also remains a serious issue, in which Cambodia is falling short of its SDG targets. There are also challenges in gender and income equality, affecting the rural poor disproportionately compared to urban populations. Climate change further exacerbates the challenges in tackling poverty, as the country is considered highly vulnerable to external shocks such as floods and droughts.

Cambodia's development is guided by the National Strategic Development Plan (2019-2023), which in addition to its heavy emphasis on boosting the private sector and economic diversification, has set the following priorities that closely align with World Vision's work: quality of education, public health and nutrition, gender equality and social protection, as well as inclusive and environmentally sustainable development. World Vision International – Cambodia's (WVI-C) national strategy for 2019 was revised to concentrate on fewer most effective project models, and it currently focuses on 4 key areas: nutrition, education, child protection and youth. These priorities are also reflected in the work implemented in Santuk, where the Area Program is built around thematic programs focused on nutrition, child protection and education.

The political environment in Cambodia is restricted, and despite the overall peace that persisted in the country, noticeable tension has been building up between the government and opposition, leading to heightened instability and human rights violations. In our program area, these increased restrictions are often evident in the local government's presence during community gatherings, in which it seems that some government representatives surveil what information is being disseminated by WV staff. The staff on both the national and local levels need to practice extreme caution in discussing the government or anything that might be seen as politically toned.

# **Partnerships and Civil Society**

In March 2019, the Cambodian civil society celebrated its first ever Civil Society Day, bringing together 300 organizations, including WVI-C, to celebrate key achievements to development and to strengthen partnerships. Despite this milestone, the space in which civil society operates in Cambodia has shrunk further, largely due to the political climate, limiting the ways organizations can affect change in the areas related to civil and democratic participation and accountability. WVI-C's work in the communities relies heavily on the government's endorsement and support, which is why partnerships with various government agencies have been pivotal also in Santuk AP.

World Vision has been one of the key partners in implementing the Social Accountability Framework (ISAF), a nationwide project that promotes dialogue between community members and local service providers to improve the quality and accessibility of health and education services. In Santuk AP, 744 citizens participated in score card meetings that were facilitated in order to rate the satisfaction in public services in the area. These meetings were followed by discussions with selected service providers, which further lead to the development of a Joint Accountability Action Plan. One key result was the pledge of a health clinic to improve the quality of its service, eventually leading to 533 children receiving immunizations and 121 babies being delivered at the clinic. ISAF, along with various other interventions in Santuk AP and elsewhere in Cambodia is implemented in close collaboration with other international as well as local NGOs. WV also collaborates closely with schools, health centers, community groups including children and youth as well as other partners in local, regional, and national levels.

Nearly all implementation of program activities in Santuk is done through local partnerships, primarily focused on various community groups formed to monitor and manage certain public services, such as health centres and schools. The groups are organised into committees, consisting of community members who are elected to serve in different leadership and member positions. WV provides regular training and support to build the capacity of these groups, whether it is School Support Committees, Child Protection Committees or Disaster Management Committees. WV aims to bring focus and address child protection issues, gender considerations and disability inclusion among its partners. The program staff works closely with local authorities and local government, including the police, churches, village chiefs and directors of various facilities, who ensure the trust of the communities.

Name of partner	Role in the project	Main achievement in 2019
Commune Committee on Women and Children (CCWC)	Raise awareness and monitor the realization of children's rights and protection in the communities.	Roles and responsibilities of the CCWC clearly defined, guidelines established. 1573 adults and children gained knowledge on issues related to child abuse and appropriate discipline.
Village Health Support Group (VHSG)	Provide training and raise awareness on women's health and child health in communities	Trained 363 women on ante and post-natal care, carried out 98 pregnancy and postpartum home visits during which breastfeeding was encouraged. VHSGs trained caregivers on child nutrition by providing food demonstrations to caregivers of malnourished children in 30 villages.
Youth and Child clubs	Provide a safe space for children to play and learn after school. The child clubs consist of tutoring in	The youth who lead the child clubs built their leadership skills and confidence. 9 new child clubs were

	school subjects, and training on issues related to child protection and life skills.	established, and 212 youth trained to volunteer as teachers.
District Office of Education Youth and Sport, school directors, teachers, School Support Committees	Provide a safe learning environment for children and build their institutional capacity on child protection.	Through a Joint Accountability Action Plan generated through ISAF activities, schools have made significant improvements in sanitation facilities, safety structures (such as fences), play areas etc. Teachers have been trained on positive non-physical discipline, one school hosted an event on International Children's Day to work together with children, parents, and teachers to encourage positive discipline.
Provincial Health Department, Operational District, Health Centres	Deliver basic health services to all community members and provide information particularly on issues related to mother and child health.	Support in implementing the Baby Friendly Community Initiative to eradicate child malnourishment, Malnourishment among children under the age 3 decreased from 23% in 2018 to 18% in 2019. The capacity of the clinics was improved through training of the Health Centre Management Committees.

Table 12: Main achievements with program partners in 2019

#### Sustainability and risks

The program builds long-term sustainability through partnerships and building the capacity of community groups so that they have the skills and knowledge to operate without constant support from VVV. Despite Santuk AP being relatively young it has made significant achievements in terms of community ownership within the various thematic programs. By building the capacity of community groups, the program staff maintain their role as mere supporters and observers while the community members themselves take leadership. Community-led micro projects function to increase ownership - by allocating small amounts of money to community groups to run their own projects, these groups gain skills and knowledge on project management and resource mobilization.

Poverty and loss of livelihoods caused by unemployment and climate shocks continue to pose a serious issue in the program area. As many adults in the households tend to migrate to neighbouring countries in search of work, this often leaves children without one or both parents. On the program level, this means that the capacity of the community groups can also be jeopardised by seasonal migration. Lack of income of those who do stay put in Santuk can cause poor health, particularly malnutrition, as well as low school attendance and low performance. WV supports the most vulnerable families through income-generating assistance such as livestock, agricultural products, and water filters. Climate risks are addressed through the disaster management training and the subsequent response plans. As implementation is heavily reliant on the collaboration with the government, heightened political instability can risk community gatherings and trainings from taking place. WV minimises this risk by maintaining a close relationship to the government while adhering to the expected social order.

# 4.2.2. India

- Hoshangabad Area Program 2018-2021 (total duration: 2007- 2022)
- Rajnandgaon Area Program 2018-2020 (total duration: 2004-2020)

#### Implementation context

India's rapid economic growth in recent decades has lifted the country to become one of the fastestgrowing economies, while major economic reforms have helped dramatically to reduce poverty. However, while India has been able to lift a significant percentage of its population out of poverty, many citizens still live in it. According to the latest data available, the official poverty rate in India is 22 %. Furthermore, 5.5% of the total population still live in extreme poverty. India's economic situation varies significantly between the states. Both APs financed by WVF are in Madhya Pradesh state, which is one of the poorest states in India with official poverty rate as high as 32 %. In 2019 both APs suffered from severe drought, which had an inverse impact on the local economy and food diversity in our target areas.

The political environment in India varies by state. Despite the rising Hindu nationalism, in 2019, the political and social situation of the APs have been stable. However, in other parts of the country, Prime Minister Modi's strict policy has caused social and political unrest while trying to suppress all the other religious minorities, especially the Muslim one.

Though India has nominally reduced malnutrition over the last decade, the country is still home to a third of the world's stunted under-five year olds. Several government programs are in place to reduce the problem, and WVF's programs are in align with these, e.g. the National Nutrition Strategy released by PM Modi's political allies. WVF's programs are also aligned with World Vision India's national strategy, which emphasises the eradication of child malnutrition and improving the health of mothers and small children.

# Partnerships and civil society

In India, local governments have various development schemes, but unfortunately, these schemes do not always reach the most vulnerable beneficiaries. To improve the situation, WVF's development programs are building consensus among various local governing bodies through networking and filling the service gaps through capacity building of local service providers. Concerning child protection, in 2019, there were 96 functional Child Protection Units (CPUs) to monitor child protection and child rights at the village level.

To strengthen the civil society, WV program staff work closely with several local, regional and national partners. For example, in 2019 APs collaborated with local governing bodies and they have several joint initiatives with Nutrition Rehabilitation Centres and the Health Department to monitor the growth and nutrition and implement campaigns on water and sanitation, breastfeeding and immunisation. To improve child participation, APs support Children's Clubs so that children can act as agents of change in their local communities. For example, 8698 children (4004 boys and 4694 girls) participated in child protection and child rights clubs and got training on child protection and child rights in 2019.

Awareness and sensitisation programs were carried out to make people aware of their rights and the process to avail the benefits through those schemes. APs also helped community members to become

aware of and enjoy various entitlements through the Citizen Voice and Action programs. In 2019 CVA training was conducted in 132 villages to identify the services provided by the government's health and education department. Furthermore, 1334 people (485 women, 300 men, 480 girls and 69 boys) were trained on child protection and engaged in advocacy and CVA community gatherings on child protection issues. As a result of the CVA action, for example, in Hoshangabad AP 90 ECDs were able to improve the services they provide at the local level communities.

Name of partner	Role in the project	Main achievement in 2019
Early Education Centres and anganwadi (early education center) workers	Responsible for early education at the community level.	CVA training given on anganwadi workers in 132 communities has improved anganwadi services
WV Community health workers and ASHA workers	Training about proper care of diarrhoea, pneumonia and child nutrition, e.g. Timed and Targeted counselling and PD Health training.	928 malnourished children under five years gained weight and graduated to normal status.
District Child Protection Units (CPUs)	Training community level Child Protection Units.	96 active local level CPUs are monitoring child protection issues, e.g. child marriage and child abuse.

Table 13: Main achievements with program partners in 2019

#### Sustainability and risks

Despite independent media, strong civil society and an independent judiciary, there are serious civil society concerns in India. Furthermore, gender disparity is high, and casteism still plays a role in the country. To ensure sustainable development, WVF's APs are implementing activities in coordination with the local government and leaders, stakeholders, frontline health workers, teachers and local community members by developing and enhancing the capacity and knowledge through various awareness training. The focus is on building the community capacity to sustain the interventions with the help of strengthened systems and structure.

Rajnandgaon AP was evaluated in 2019. According to the final evaluation for 2004 - 2019, the programme has been able to significantly improve child protection and the use of basic health services, including mother and child health. The main reason behind this success has been strong cooperation with strategic partners both at the local and regional level. However, according to the external evaluators, organic farming and remedial education would still need external support to gain sustainability. The Final Evaluation Report on Rajnandgaon AP is included as an Annex.

The risks concerning Indian APs are political and social unrest in addition to man-made and natural catastrophes. Additionally, local-level challenges are related to dropping out of school after 10th class, child protection issues, alcoholism, casteism and an extremely low percentage of married women practising birth spacing. Most importantly, child malnutrition prevalence is still high. Therefore, more capacity building and awareness programs are needed to promote the behaviour change of the village dwellers.