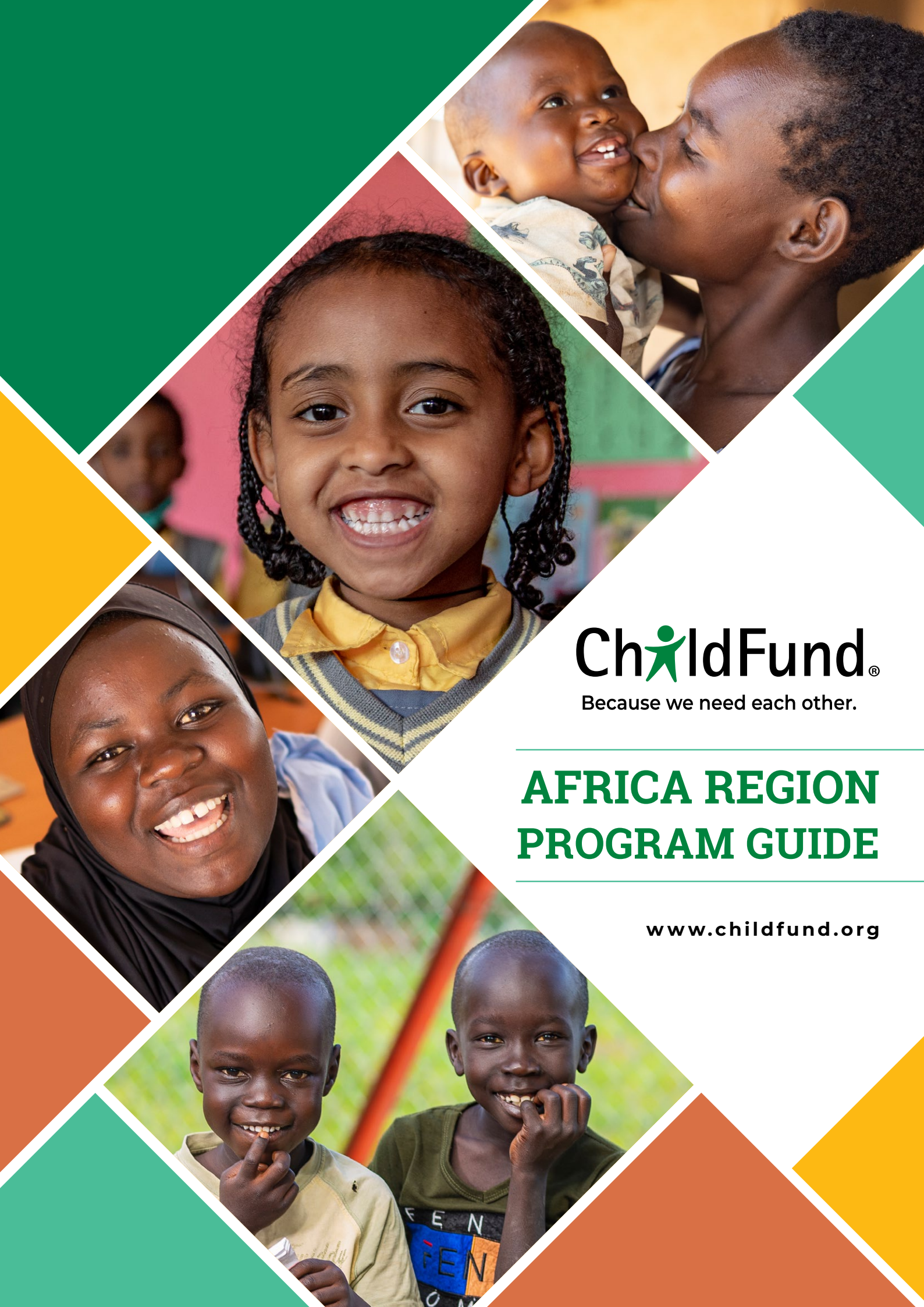

ChildFund®

Because we need each other.

AFRICA REGION PROGRAM GUIDE

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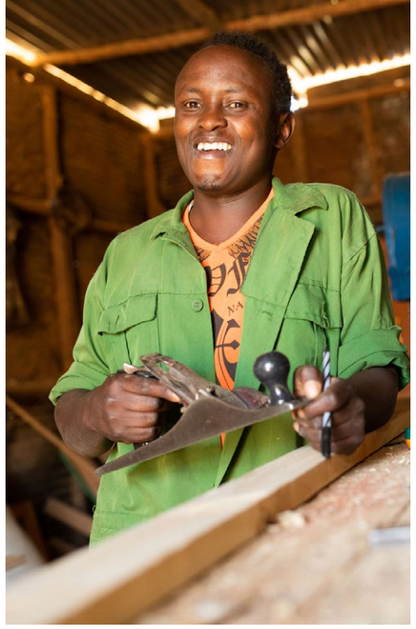



ChildFund is a child-focused international development organization that works throughout Asia, Africa and the Americas to connect children with the people, resources and institutions they need to grow up healthy, educated, skilled and safe, wherever they are.





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From The Africa Regional Director



ChildFund is a child-focused international development organization that works throughout Asia, Africa and the Americas to connect children with the people, resources and institutions they need to grow up healthy, educated, skilled and safe. Our programs address the underlying conditions that prevent any child or youth from achieving their full potential.

ChildFund has been operating in Africa for more than 60 years, providing support to children and youth, their families and communities, through developmental and humanitarian relief programs delivered directly and through local implementing partner organizations. Currently, ChildFund International works in 12 countries in Africa - Ethiopia, Uganda, Kenya, Senegal, Guinea, Sierra Leone, The Gambia, Mozambique and Zambia. We have recently expanded our programs into the Central Sahel—Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger—as part of our commitment to reaching the most vulnerable children and communities affected by conflict, poverty, and displacement. We also have a presence in 19 additional countries through ChildFund Alliance, which is a global network of 11 child-focused development organizations.

Together, working with partners, donors, governments and communities, we aim to achieve the sustained wellbeing of children within families and communities, especially those experiencing deprivation, exclusion and vulnerability, by ensuring that children: enjoy good health; are educated; are cared for, are protected and live in financially stable families.



In 2024, ChildFund reached 29,186,301 children and their families across Africa through various development and humanitarian programs.

Our program priorities include Child Protection, Early Childhood Development, Education, Food Security, Livelihoods, Health and Nutrition, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Environmental Sustainability, Humanitarian Response, and Advocacy.

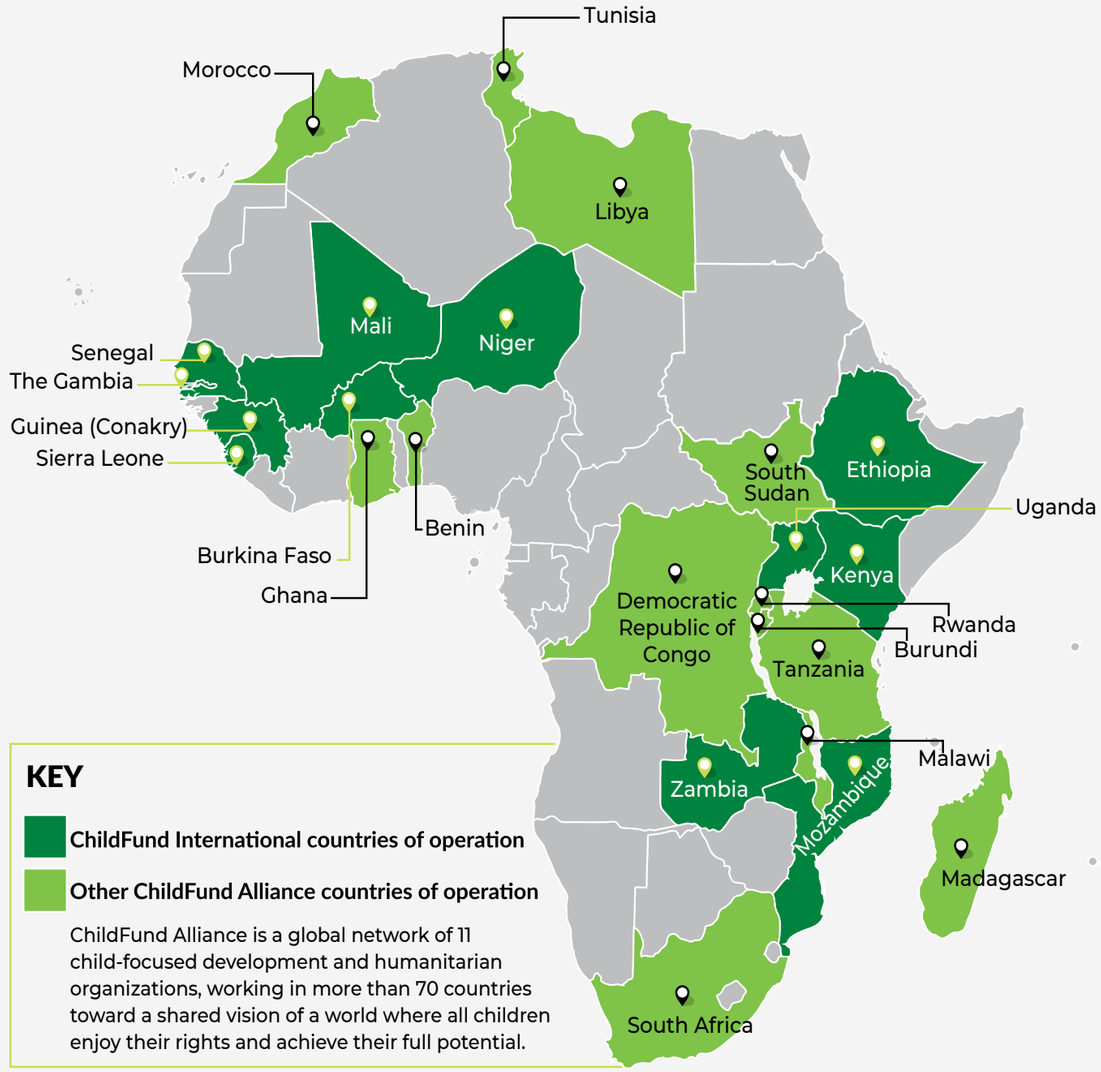
Our strength lies in our team of highly professional and committed individuals, who, through their passion and hard work, continuously drive this organization forward. We are committed to holding ourselves accountable for the promises we make to our supporters, partners, staff, and most of all, children. This means looking back at our commitments, celebrating our successes and learning from our mistakes.

We are encouraged by the significant sustainable change that we have made in people's lives and are immensely grateful to all our donors and partners who have faithfully supported us over the years.

I invite you to read through this publication. It is my hope that you will find the information contained herein useful and insightful and that the work we do will inspire you.

CHEGE NGUGI

ChildFund in Africa



KEY

ChildFund International countries of operation

Other ChildFund Alliance countries of operation

ChildFund Alliance is a global network of 11 child-focused development and humanitarian organizations, working in more than 70 countries toward a shared vision of a world where all children enjoy their rights and achieve their full potential.

Our Reach in 2024



ETHIOPIA
10,000,000

UGANDA
4,000,000

KENYA
3,100,000

THE GAMBIA
1,130,387

SENEGAL
3,520,184

GUINEA
4,218,214

SIERRA LEONE
2,511,039

ZAMBIA
206,477

MOZAMBIQUE
500,000

Total reach in 9 countries.

29,186,301
Children and their family members

Program Priorities

- Child Protection
- Early Childhood Development
- Education
- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
- Food Security
- Livelihoods
- Health and Nutrition
- Youth Development
- Environmental Sustainability
- Humanitarian Response
- Advocacy

To promote children's optimal development at every age, ChildFund tailors its interventions to meet their unique needs across three life stages—from infancy to young adulthood.

LIFE STAGE 1
Healthy and Secure Infants (0 to 5 years)

LIFE STAGE 2
Educated and Confident Children (6 to 14 years)

LIFE STAGE 3
Skilled and Involved Youth (15 to 24 years)



Child Protection

Around the world, children and youth of all ages and backgrounds experience abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence – and the situation in Africa is no different. Those who live in impoverished households are particularly vulnerable and, because of their economic standing, less resilient. Children in these environments are often unable to exercise their basic rights to food, shelter, health services and education. As a result, children face harmful and long-lasting impacts on their well-being and development.

ChildFund works to ensure that the progress we make for children is not undone by abuse, neglect, exploitation or violence by strengthening our child protection programming. In Africa, we work to address issues that threaten children's safety through programs that include:

- Working to address Online Sexual Exploitation and Abuse of Children by bringing youth, technology companies, policymakers and the media together to learn about and commit to tackling the issue.
- Improving violence prevention and response, reporting child's rights violations and providing psychological support in refugee settlements.
- Training communities how to respond to the physical, socio-economic and psychological trauma that children often experience during emergencies.
- Helping communities and child protection committees to foster violence-free environments.
- Strengthening child protection case management services, improving community-based psychological support for children and caregivers and increasing community understanding and awareness of child protection and risks such as abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence.
- Implementing school-based violence prevention (SBVP) programs to enhance the skills of children (ages 6-12), their caregivers, and their educators to prevent, mitigate, and respond to violence against them.

HIGHLIGHTED PROJECT

Tuchanuke ("Let's Wise Up") Online Child Protection Project in Kenya

Internet use among young people has burgeoned in recent years. The threat of online sexual exploitation and abuse of children (OSEAC) remains relatively unknown among children and caregivers, measures for protection are also unknown.

Meanwhile, with the many online channels available to potential abusers for accessing children, it is often difficult for police and other officials to track illegal behaviors.

This is especially apparent in low-income areas in Nairobi, considered the hub of online sexual exploitation of children in Kenya, and Kiambu County, which often serves as a supplier of trafficked children.

In response to this menace, ChildFund, with funding from Google implemented the Tuchanuke (meaning "Let's Wise Up") Online Child Protection project which applies an ecosystem approach to prevent, address and respond to OSEAC in several primarily urban sub-counties in Kenya.

The project involved nationwide research on the scope of OSEAC; community-, school- and media-based training; and policy development to prevent online sex trafficking.

1,200
young people (15 to 24 years), were trained as online safety champions.

6,000
caregivers were sensitized on how to keep children safe from online harm.

30
government officials were supported to develop policies to reduce online sexual exploitation of children.



HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS

Fighting Online Sexual Abuse of Children in Kenya

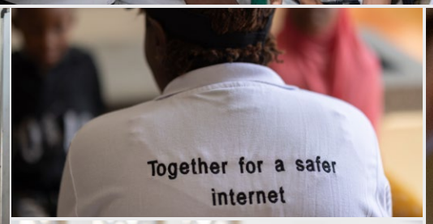
In 2022, ChildFund Kenya received a $1 million grant from The Global Partnership and Fund to End Violence Against Children (EVAC) to lead Safe CLICS, a three-year project. Safe CLICS stands for Safe Community Linkages for Internet Child Safety. The project, operating across 4 counties in Kenya, works with local government institutions, schools, communities, and families to help them effectively recognize and respond to online child sexual abuse.

This project, implemented in partnership with ChildLine Kenya and Life Skills Promoters, is working to address key gaps by:

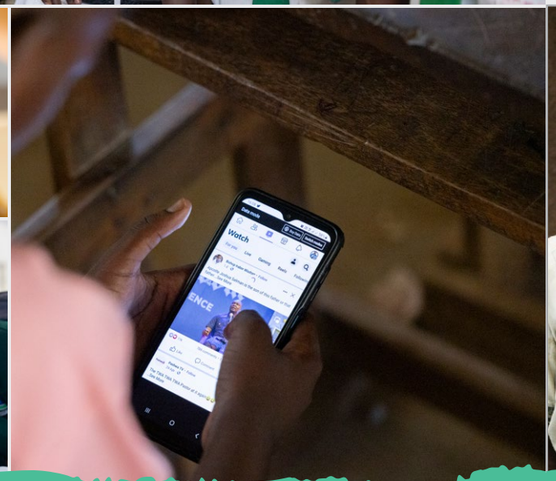
- Strengthening Kenya's national framework and improving interagency coordination.
- Increasing awareness of online sexual exploitation and abuse of children.
- Building children's and youth's online safety skills.
- Improving service providers', schools', communities', parents' and caregivers' abilities to detect and respond to cases of online sexual exploitation and abuse of children.











Hands4Good Child Protection Campaign in Uganda

Physical violence is one of the most common forms of violence experienced by children in Uganda. It is also one of the most reported forms of violence, making up 27% of all cases reported to the Uganda Child Helpline in 2021.

To protect children from physical violence, ChildFund in partnership with other members of the Joining Forces Alliance in Uganda, is implemented a social behavioral change campaign to end physical violence experienced by children.

With support from the European Union, the nine-month multimedia campaign targeted parents and caregivers, enabling them to adopt non-violent parenting methods.

Under the tagline "Hands4Good", the campaign called on all parents and caregivers to use their hands to nurture, support, and guide children instead of using them for violence. With special focus on 6 districts; Gulu, Obongi, Kampala, Wakiso, Busia and Bugiri, the campaign works with community champions of non-violent parenting.

The champions supported their communities to work towards ending physical violence, identify children at risk of physical violence, and ensure that these children access services that will provide the support they need.

The campaign also popularized the Parenting Without Violence methods which support parents and caregivers to gain increased understanding of child development and how to use positive discipline with their children. As a result, children will be able to thrive in safe and loving environments.

248,500
children participated directly in the Hands4Good project.

2.5 million
people were reached with key messages on parenting without violence through social media.

9,684
children and parents participated in the Parenting Without Violence awareness sessions.





Health & Nutrition

Without good health and access to quality health services, children can't achieve their full potential. But in many of ChildFund's program areas, people live far from health centers or have limited knowledge of proper health practices and when they should seek care. Of the existing facilities, many lack trained health personnel and, as a result, the quality of services is poor. That's why ChildFund works to promote good health from pregnancy through adulthood.

> Through our maternal and child health (MCH) programs, ChildFund educates expectant parents on topics including the importance of attending pre- and post-natal checkups, giving birth under the supervision of a skilled attendant, maintaining proper nutrition and receiving immunizations.

ChildFund's nutrition work complements these programs through activities ranging from supplying mothers and newborns with vitamin supplements to training caregivers on growing sustainable crops as a reliable and nutritious food source.

Through ChildFund's corporate partnerships, we furnish clinics with beds, medicines, vitamins and protective equipment including masks, gloves and lab coats, enabling them to provide better health care to community members. And because Africa has over 94% of the world's malaria cases, ChildFund distributes long-lasting insecticidal mosquito nets and educates communities on how to use them properly, as well as how to recognize symptoms of malaria and other mosquito borne diseases and the importance of seeing a healthcare professional when sick.

HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS

Vitamin A Supplementation projects in Mozambique, Sierra Leone, Senegal, Guinea and Uganda



Vitamin A deficiency puts children at greater risk of disease and early death and is the leading cause of preventable child blindness.

Over the past 3 years, ChildFund with funding from Nutrition International, has been implementing periodic countrywide Vitamin A supplementation and deworming projects targeting children under 5 years in 5 countries - Mozambique, Sierra Leone, Senegal, Guinea and Uganda.

8,000,000 Children

Over 8 million children received Vitamin A Supplementation in Mozambique, Sierra Leone, Senegal, Guinea and Uganda.

Nutrition Strengthening Program in Senegal

The Nutrition Strengthening Program is one of ChildFund Senegal's flagship programs, implemented since 2002, and financed annually by the State of Senegal and the World Bank.

This program is deployed in 6 regions of the country (Thies, Diourbel, Fatick, Kolda, Sedhiou and Ziguinchor), and aims to reduce the rate of malnutrition and significantly improve the quality of nutrition among children aged 0 to 5 years. The program starts with an invitation for community others with children ages 5 and under to attend nutritional seminars and growth monitoring sessions.

At the regular nutrition sessions, knowledge and recipes are shared by a nutritionist, along with a meal, and mothers walk away with ideas on how to cook with local ingredients and prepare healthier foods for their children.

Through regular growth monitoring sessions, where trained volunteers examine and weigh children, mothers can keep an eye on their child's physical development; the volunteers refer the most severe cases of malnutrition to the formal health care system.



340,739
children received nutrition services through the Nutrition Strengthening Program in Senegal, in 2023.





HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS



Improving the Reproductive Health of Adolescents in Senegal

With funding from ChildFund Germany and the German Cooperation (BMZ), ChildFund Senegal in partnership with the Ministries of Health and Social Action and Education is implementing a Youth Reproductive Health Improvement Project in Thies and Diourbel regions.

The 3-year project aims to improve access to quality reproductive and menstrual health services tailored to the needs of 25,367 adolescents and young people in 16 schools and communities covered by 16 health posts.

To ensure sustainability, the project has adopted a holistic and multisectoral approach focusing on:

- Strengthening the capacity of actors to offer quality reproductive and menstrual health services.
- Providing adequate infrastructure e.g., construction of toilets sensitive, renovation and equipping of service provision facilities in schools and health posts.
- Conducting communication campaigns for social and behavioural change.
- Strengthening communication and coordination among stakeholders.

Youth-Friendly Reproductive Health Services in Ethiopia



In Ethiopia, ChildFund provides youth with access to comprehensive reproductive health services. Through collaboration with local partners, ChildFund has constructed 13 youth-friendly SRH centers in 5 regions—Amhara, Oromia, South, and Central South—that serve an estimated 53,835 youth annually.

These centers are equipped with essential clinical materials and kits, enabling adolescents and youth to access vital services such as HIV/AIDS prevention, Voluntary Counselling and Testing (VCT), and other health interventions, addressing critical challenges like teenage pregnancy, abortion, and sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV.

These youth centers also act as hubs for personal development and community engagement. They offer resources like indoor games, musical instruments, computers, and libraries, while also providing life and job skills training, leadership development opportunities, and referrals to other programs.

ChildFund's partnership with government health offices further enhances the impact of these centers. Health workers are trained to deliver standardized, adolescent and youth-friendly health services, ensuring quality care and strengthening referral systems between health facilities and youth centers.





Education

Africa has the highest rate of educational exclusion in the world, with over one-fifth of children aged 6 – 11 and over one-third aged 12 – 14 out of school. Long distances to schools, a lack of qualified teachers, limited funds to cover school-related expenses and poor knowledge of the importance of education are only a few of the reasons why many school-aged children forego their education. ChildFund's educational programs work to combat these issues by:

- Building safe, high-quality schools equipped with teaching and learning materials including textbooks, chairs, desks and educational kits for students.
- Educating community members on the role that education plays in children's development.
- Training teachers and constructing teachers' houses to ensure there are qualified teachers in even the most remote communities.
- Constructing and furnishing dormitories for children who live far from the nearest school so they can continue their education.
- Establishing computer labs at schools to provide students with access to technology.
- Providing school children, especially girls, with bikes, helmets and safety vests, giving them a safe and reliable mode of transportation.

HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS

Bicycles for school children in The Gambia and Mozambique

In The Gambia and Mozambique, many young girls are late to class, miss days or stop attending altogether due to the lack of a safe, efficient way to get to and from school. Long commutes mean that girls have to leave home early and return late, putting them at risk of harassment and assault.

ChildFund works to address this issue by providing girls with bikes, helmets and safety vests, giving them a safe and reliable mode of transportation. ChildFund also educates families on the importance of education for all children - boys, girls, including children with disabilities.



ChildFund constructs the first modern school in a remote Zambian district

At least 450 children in Kakonge Primary School in Shangombo District, Zambia, now have a modern classroom block. This comes after ChildFund officially handed over the school that was constructed with support from the Irish Embassy to the Zambian Government, in June 2022.

Previously, children in the area, which is one of Zambia's remotest districts near the Angolan border, were learning in a mud-bricked, grass-thatched structure. Classes would be forced to go on recess every rainy season or during the colder months. This becomes the first and only school in the district which is estimated to have a population of 84,070 people.

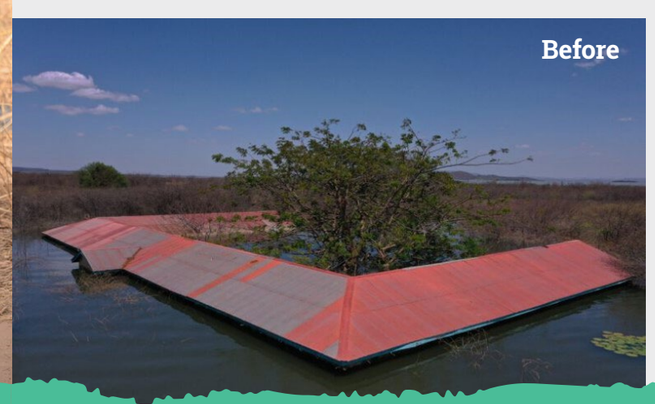




ChildFund reconstructs ECD center and primary school submerged by floods in Kenya

In May 2022, ChildFund officially commissioned Salabani Primary, a school that was in 2020 submerged by floods and later reconstructed with new classrooms set on higher ground. The school, located in Baringo County in Kenya, underwent a significant makeover, giving it a fresh new look at a cost of $299,000 (Kshs. 31 million.)

Working with local partner Central Rift Community Development Program, ChildFund constructed eight primary and two ECD classrooms, an administration block, latrines and handwashing stations. The school was further equipped with 400 desks and chairs while the Anne Goddard ECD center, named after the former ChildFund International President, was also equipped with 170 chairs and 45 tables. This has led to increased enrollment and transition rates the school provides a favorable learning environment for over 500 children.







Zero Out-Of-School Children in The Gambia

> ChildFund in partnership with UNICE, Education Above All, through its global program, Educate A Child, the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education (MoBSE), and Education For All Network (EFANET), are implementing the landmark Zero Out-Of-School Children (OOSC) project in The Gambia.

This 3-year project seeks to enroll and retain 66,765 out-of-school children and adolescents in quality primary education. The goal of this project is to ensure that all out-of-school children in The Gambia are enrolled in quality primary education thus helping the country to achieve zero OOSC.

The project employs several strategic interventions such as community engagement and social behavior change to drive demand for education services, cash transfer programs both as an incentive and to ease financial burdens and the provision of bicycles to students who have distances to school to enhance attendance. Furthermore, different ministries are collaborating to identify, enroll and monitor the country's hardest-to-reach OOSC.

To enhance access for children with disabilities, the project is also constructing disability-friendly classrooms and gender-sensitive toilets. Quality improvement will be achieved through increased teacher supply, targeted teacher training, and the provision of necessary learning materials.

This project will also provide a second chance to the overaged children who may have missed an opportunity to be in primary education by offering them a non-formal alternative learning program that leads to certification and/or transition to upper primary school.



GOAL

66,765

children aged 7 to 12 who are out of school are enrolled in school (51% girls, 49% boys and 1.5% children with disabilities)

AWARENESS RAISING

1,500

parents are sensitized and acquire knowledge to enroll children in school.

RECRUITMENT OF TEACHERS

1,000

new teachers recruited to support learning in schools.

CASH TRANSFER

7,500

families with most needy children receive cash transfer support to improve school enrolment and prevent school drop-out

SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION

3,000

children received bicycles to enhance travel to school and prevent school drop-out

LEARNING AND PLAY MATERIALS

15,000

children in 60 schools will receive learning and play materials annually

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

50

head teachers and 450 teachers acquire improved management and pedagogic skills to enhance enrolment and retention.

SCHOOL-BASED SUPPORT SERVICES

66,765

children aged 7 to 12 who are out of school are enrolled in school (51% girls, 49% boys and 1.5% children with disabilities)

SUPPORTING CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

5,000

children with disabilities, will be provided with assistive learning devices and support services.

CONSTRUCTION

54

disability-friendly classrooms and 108 disability-friendly toilet cubicles constructed

ALTERNATIVE LEARNING PROGRAMS

5,000

overaged children benefit from flexible and alternative learning programs.

IMPROVING DATA SYSTEMS

Education Management Information System (EMIS) strengthened and linked with other sector data systems. 50 education practitioners acquire skills to collect, analyze, interpret and utilize data.

HIGHLIGHTED PROJECT

Supporting out-of-school girls to access quality secondary education in Sierra Leone

ChildFund Sierra Leone, in collaboration with ChildFund Korea, Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), and the Government of Sierra Leone, launched a $1,596,124 education project to increase access to secondary education for 3,300 out-of-school girls in the Western area of the country.

The 3-year project (April 2023 – December 2025) is being implemented by ChildFund in collaboration with the Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary Education (MBSSE) in 6 schools. This is KOICA's first NGO project in Sierra Leone - a flagship project of a development MoU between KOICA and the Government of Sierra Leone.
Overall, this project is geared towards ensuring that:

- Out-of-school girls have access to inclusive and safe learning environments.
- Out-of-school girls are supported to continue their education.
- Communities are meaningfully engaged in the protection of marginalized children and enrolling them in schools.

This project is in line with the government's National Policy on Radical Inclusion in Schools to support girls who are or have been pregnant, and parent-learners to stay in school; and the National Strategy for Out-of-School Children that targets to achieve zero out-of-school children in the country.



3,300

out-of-school girls will be supported to re-enroll in secondary school through this KOICA-funded project.



A visit by KOICA Nigeria Office Country Director Son Sungil, and Deputy Country Director Minjae Kang to Sengbeh Pieh School in Goderich, Freetown, where ChildFund is constructing additional school blocks, equipped with gender-separated latrines and water systems, as part of our collective action and effort to support 3,300 out-of-school girls to access secondary school education.

I left school after I lost my father during the Ebola epidemic in 2015. My single mother at the time could not afford to send me to school because of the high school fees.

I am happy to be back in school. I am a clever student and I had double promotion in school before the Ebola outbreak. So, when I lost my father, I felt bad because my education ambition ended abruptly. I am very happy because my dream to become a respectable person in society remains alive.

I would like to be a soldier in the future because I want to serve my country. I want to also break that barrier that the military is only for men.

~ MEMUNATU

I dropped out of school after I became pregnant. After giving birth, I wanted to go back to school, but there was no one to take care of my child. My mother whom I thought could help, had my siblings to take care of, too.

As a young girl growing up, I always wanted to finish my education. When I became pregnant, I was sad because I did not think staying at home was my portion. Now, I am happy to be in school; I have friends and I feel I belong.

I want to be a doctor because my late father was a doctor. When he was alive, I saw the wonderful job he did, and I want to follow in his footsteps.

~ EMMA

I left school after our house caught fire and everything was burnt including my clothes, school results, school materials, and other personal belongings.

So, my single mother could not afford to buy me new uniform, books and other school materials. Sitting at home made me feel so bad because it was like seeing my dream being shattered.

It is a life-changing opportunity for me to be back in school. I feel so happy. I will be able to achieve my dream of becoming an educated and independent woman in society.

I would like to become a bank manager in the future.

~ HAWANATU

Creating food security in the face of a changing environment

In Africa, 70% of people are dependent on agriculture to make a living. Many farmers are using outdated farming practices that are inefficient in today's changing climate, as flooding and drought occurs more frequently.

Because of this, ChildFund educates farmers on climate-smart agriculture, including farming techniques that preserve water and tending to crops that can withstand environmental changes, like moringa — a crop that is drought resistant and has many medicinal and nutritional benefits.

ChildFund also works with various partners to equip farmers with smart farming technologies. By doing so, farmers can secure a sustainable income as well as a reliable food source for themselves and their families.

HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS

Spowdi and ChildFund partner to advance smart farming among small-hold farmers in Africa



10,000

Farmers in Kenya will receive solar-powered drip irrigation smart farming systems.

Green tech innovator Spowdi and ChildFund are working together to promote sustainable smart farming among small-hold farmers in Africa. The two organizations signed a three-year agreement at COP28 in December 2023 to introduce smart farming technologies to tens of thousands of small-hold farmers to enhance food production while using minimal water resources.

This initiative has since kicked off with the implementation of a pilot project targeting 10,000 farmers in Kenya, over a 3-year period. Upon completion of this first phase, this initiative will be replicated in other countries - Uganda, Ethiopia, Zambia, Mozambique, Guinea, Senegal, Sierra Leone and The Gambia.

Through this partnership, farmers will receive equipment and onsite training on how to use smart irrigation technology, comprising of Spowdi's solar-powered, mobile, water distribution systems "Spowdi Mobile Pro Mk2", which will also be used for training in micro-irrigation techniques. Spowdi and ChildFund will also establish demonstration sites, testbeds, and training hubs for farmers, trainers, distributors, educationists, and other partners.

Sustainable Food Security and Livelihoods Program in Ethiopia



Over 1,600

households in Siraro and Fental districts have adopted smart agricultural practices, engage in tree growing, and participate in VSLAs.



With support from The Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), ChildFund is implementing an integrated emergency response, food security and environmental protection project in Siraro and Fentale Districts, Ethiopia. These regions have been severely affected by frequent droughts, communal conflicts, soil erosion and deforestation.

As a result, agricultural productivity is very low and the level of malnutrition is high. In addition, families living in poverty, especially women, have no access to credit that might help them meet their families' basic needs.

To address these challenges, this project aims to: support 1,600 households to access effective agricultural and livestock production methods (drought-resistant seed varieties, irrigation and rainwater harvesting, gardening and animal rearing); increase households' access micro credit through Village Savings and Loans Associations; and to improve children's and families' nutrition and economic situations and ensure they are actively involved in protecting their environment and managing their natural resources.

HIGHLIGHTED PROJECT

Advancing Youth-Driven Sustainability Solutions

In partnership with Dow Chemical and LEAP Africa, a youth-focused leadership development organization, ChildFund is advancing youth-led environmental care and sustainability initiatives across Africa.

Together, we co-design and implement programs that equip young people with the knowledge and tools to lead on environmental protection, sustainable development, education, employability, and entrepreneurship.

A key highlight of this partnership is the Youth Day of Service, a Pan-African, youth-led social impact campaign held annually beginning August 12. This week-long initiative empowers young people to take action in their communities, mobilizing around environmental conservation, clean-up drives, tree planting, and other sustainability efforts.

ChildFund and LEAP Africa work together to strengthen youth-led advocacy and policy engagement at both local and national levels, ensuring that young voices shape the environmental agenda and influence decision-making for a greener, more sustainable Africa.



Youth showcasing some of their initiatives and innovations to conserve the environment and tackle climate change.



Over 3,000 youth from 9 countries in Africa participated in the 2023 Youth Day of Service celebration, focusing on combating climate change.









HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS

Regreening Africa: Youth and Women Championing Sustainable Land Restoration



For over two decades, environmental changes have intensified resource-based conflicts and communal violence in Kenya's arid and semi-arid lands (ASALs). These regions have witnessed widespread livestock losses, low agricultural productivity, plummeting purchasing power, and severe food insecurity, resulting in acute malnutrition among millions of households.

Youth and women, who rely heavily on degraded lands and livestock for their livelihoods, are among the most affected. As the primary caregivers, women and their children disproportionately bear the burden of these environmental stresses, underscoring the urgent need for sustainable interventions.

In response, ChildFund, in partnership with Dow, is implementing the Regreening Africa Project. The initiative focuses on building environmental resilience and promoting sustainable livelihoods by engaging youth and women in nature-smart green enterprises.

Through this project, youth and women are trained to establish and manage commercial fruit and agroforestry tree nurseries, supplying trees to schools, individuals, and communities. These nurseries not only support reforestation and environmental conservation but also create a steady income stream for participants. The nurseries prioritize high-value fruit trees such as avocado, mango, orange, and moringa, contributing to greener landscapes and food security.

By engaging 600 youth and 300 women in ecosystem-friendly green enterprises, the project promotes decent employment while tackling the root causes of environmental degradation.

By March 2025, the project had already planted more than 130,000 trees, revitalizing degraded landscapes. In addition, over 10,000 children gained access to nutritious, fortified moringa-based food, contributing significantly to improved health and nutrition outcomes.

Orange-Fleshed Sweet Potatoes (OFSP) Project for Food Security and Nutrition in Kenya

This project's goal is to enhance the resilience and livelihoods of women and children of vulnerable farming households in Turkana and Samburu counties by improving the economic and nutritional status of 12,000 children, 3,000 women and 2,200 youth through the adoption of OFSP innovative technologies. These counties have been severely affected by frequent droughts and communal conflicts.

The project formed, trained and supported farmer groups in the uptake of OFSP technology and carried out field demonstrations and open field days to enhance the adoption of OFSP technologies and practices as well as built the capacity of agriculture extension workers in the use of OFSP technologies and practices.

ChildFund further supported 10 Village Savings and Loans groups to establish OFSP multiplication plots to provide cuttings; established irrigated OFSP kitchen gardens in ECD centers, drilled and equipped boreholes to provide water for farming.

12,000 children | **3,000** women | **2,200** youth

benefitted from the orange-fleshed sweet potato project in Turkana and Samburu counties.



Improving Lives through Smart Agriculture in Uganda

Over 70% of Ugandans rely on farming as their main source of livelihood. Though, more often, farmers face challenges such as low household income, food insecurity, poor farming technology, and climate change, which threaten their only source of income.

To respond to these challenges, ChildFund with funding from BMZ through ChildFund Germany is helping to address the challenges. Ongoing initiatives include developing smart solutions, micro-enterprise development, and youth skilling in severely affected areas in Teso and Lango sub-regions.

This project has recorded remarkable progress. To date, 840 farmers have been trained in sustainable, resilience-focused agriculture, leading to the widespread adoption of improved farming practices at the household level, resulting in bumper harvests. In addition, the project has supported the establishment and training of local disaster management committees and the development of community Disaster Risk Response contingency plans.



840
farmers

have adopted smart agricultural practices in Teso and Lango sub-regions.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Of the 783 million people worldwide who live without access to clean water, 40% live in sub-Saharan Africa. Without access to clean water for drinking, handwashing, cooking and other daily activities, community members are often forced to collect water from unprotected and contaminated sources. This puts them at risk of developing waterborne illnesses, which are particularly dangerous to young children whose immune systems are not fully developed.

For children, contracting these illnesses means they must stay home from school, leading them to miss lessons and fall behind their peers. Caretakers then face increased medical bills and often miss work, causing them to face economic insecurity.

> At ChildFund, we know that access to clean water and proper hygiene improves health and enables parents to spend more time on income-generating activities and children to spend more time on their education.

Through our water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) projects,

- We strive to create sustainable water supply services and water resources in all needy communities.
- We promote integrated and gender-sensitive WASH in schools
- We champion Circular Economy initiatives
- We respond to WASH humanitarian needs, strengthening disaster resilience.
- We collaborate with partners to promote WASH good governance, systems strengthening and social accountability

HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS



ChildFund, DuPont, Davis & Shirtliff partner to increase access to clean water in Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda & Zambia

ChildFund, Davis & Shirtliff, and DuPont are partnering to increase access to clean water for communities in Kenya, Ethiopia, Uganda, and Zambia. This collaboration aims to deploy sustainable water solutions, ensuring that under-resourced communities can access safe and clean water through innovative technologies.

As part of this partnership, three successful projects have already been completed in Kenya and Zambia, including Nyagina Beach and Baringo in Kenya, and Mchimadzi in Zambia. These initiatives focused on installing and rehabilitating boreholes, setting up water storage tanks, and introducing electric and solar-powered pumps to improve access to water. Additionally, solarizing existing water pumps and implementing water testing technologies have helped to ensure water safety for local communities. Public schools have also benefitted from water-related interventions, ensuring that students have reliable access to clean water.

DuPont's involvement plays a crucial role in supporting the project's sustainable and innovative approach, especially in the area of water filtration and treatment. DuPont's advanced filtration technologies are being integrated into water systems, further enhancing the quality of water provided to these communities.

This collaboration brings together Davis & Shirtliff's technical expertise in water and energy solutions, DuPont's cutting-edge filtration technologies, and ChildFund's experience in implementing development programs in vulnerable communities.

Building Partnerships to Increase Access to Safe and Clean Water for Communities

ChildFund works with various partners including DuPont, Davis & Shirtliff, Procter and Gamble (P&G), national and local governments, local partners organizations and communities themselves to increase access to clean water for communities. Working with the aforementioned partners and many more, ChildFund reached more than 2.5 million people in Africa, including children and their families, through various WASH programs in 2024.



DUPONT

ROLE

- Technical support.
- Gift-in-kind support (membranes for ultrafiltration).

DAVIS & SHIRTLIFF — know HOw through experience

ROLE

- Technical support.
- Rehabilitation of borehole equipment.
- Supply and installation of electric and solar-powered water pumps.
- Provision of water testing technologies and equipment support.

ChildFund — Because we need each other.

ROLE

- Financial support.
- Project implementation in collaboration with local partner organizations, governments and communities.

P&G

ROLE

- Water Purifier Sachets.
- Bio-Filtration Systems.
- Construction of Earth Dams.
- Social and Behaviour Change Communication campaigns.

Water forever

ROLE

- Installation of prepaid smart water meters for communal water points.
- This technology enhances transparency and accountability in revenue collection, ensuring the sustainability of water systems.

COMMUNITIES

ROLE

- Land donation to provide space to establish water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities.
- Facility management and operation to ensure sustainability.
- Conducting Social and Behaviour Change Communication campaigns.

GOVERNMENTS

ROLE

- Financial Resources
- Training: Officers train community members on proper management of water resources - facility operation and maintenance, financial management, and conflict resolution.
- Adoption of ChildFund's program models.

More than a box!

Breaking down barriers to finance for women in Guinea through Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA)

Most women living in rural areas in Africa are financially excluded. They do not have access to banks or credit to borrow money to start or expand income-generating activities. And even when they have access to banks, the loans attract very high punitive interest rates.

VSLA is a successful practice implemented across ChildFund programs in Africa that stimulates the creation of saving groups within communities. VSLAs are self-managed groups of 30 to 50 people who meet regularly to save their money in a safe space and access small loans.

Since 2020, ChildFund has established 243 VSLA groups with over 7,290 group members in Dabola and Kindia regions in Guinea. Collectively, these groups have since generated over $1,500,000. This initiative has empowered participants to increase access and control over resources and use collective power to overcome social and financial barriers.

Overall, VSLA has promoted the culture of savings, financial management, and made income-generating activities for many women a reality thus promoting financial independence.



Protecting Children in Crisis

In Every Crisis, Children Must Come First.

Crises in Africa strike in many forms, some erupt suddenly, others build gradually. Today, the continent is grappling with complex emergencies driven by conflict, environmental shocks, economic inequality, and political instability. In every crisis, children are the most vulnerable.

At ChildFund, we are committed to placing children's needs at the center of all humanitarian action. Whether they remain in their communities or are forced to flee, children deserve safety, protection, and the opportunity to heal and thrive. Over the past 5 years, our humanitarian programs reached over 6 million displaced people, providing life-saving assistance across Kenya, Ethiopia, Uganda, Senegal, Zambia, The Gambia, Sierra Leone, Mozambique, and most recently, Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger, as part of our expansion into the Central Sahel.

Our Approach

Our approach prioritizes the protection and inclusion of children in all emergencies. As we respond to urgent needs, we also partner with governments, communities, and civil society to build stability and deliver sustainable impact for children.

- Locally Led Emergency Response: In the communities where we work, we strengthen local systems, including civil society partners, youth groups, and government actors, to build resilience before crises hit. When emergencies occur, we act quickly to protect children and their communities from harm such as abuse, violence, or exploitation. Our key interventions include:
  - Provision of non-food items and dignity kits.
  - Establishment of child-friendly spaces.
  - Delivery of mental health and psychosocial support services.
  - Safe identification and referral of at-risk children.
  - Multipurpose cash assistance to support protection and recovery.
- Safe Spaces: In the aftermath of a crisis, children are often left without safety, structure, or emotional support. That's why we invest in Safe Spaces—secure, child-friendly environments where children can learn, play, and access psychological first aid. Caregivers also receive mental health support and emergency supplies to restore dignity and reduce risk.
- Support for Reintegration: When children and families are ready to return home or settle in new communities, ChildFund supports reintegration through education, livelihood recovery, and protection programs. In places like Palorinya Refugee Settlement in Uganda, we support Sudanese families with economic recovery, reintegration into education systems, and child protection services, helping them rebuild their lives with dignity and hope.
- Collaboration Toward Sustainable, Localized Support: Through strong partnerships and advocacy, we bridge the gap between emergency response and long-term development. We leverage ChildFund's experience and networks to influence local and national policies that prioritize child protection, inclusive mental health services, and access to life-saving care, ensuring children and families are not just supported during crises but also empowered to thrive long after.







HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS

Child Protection in Emergencies

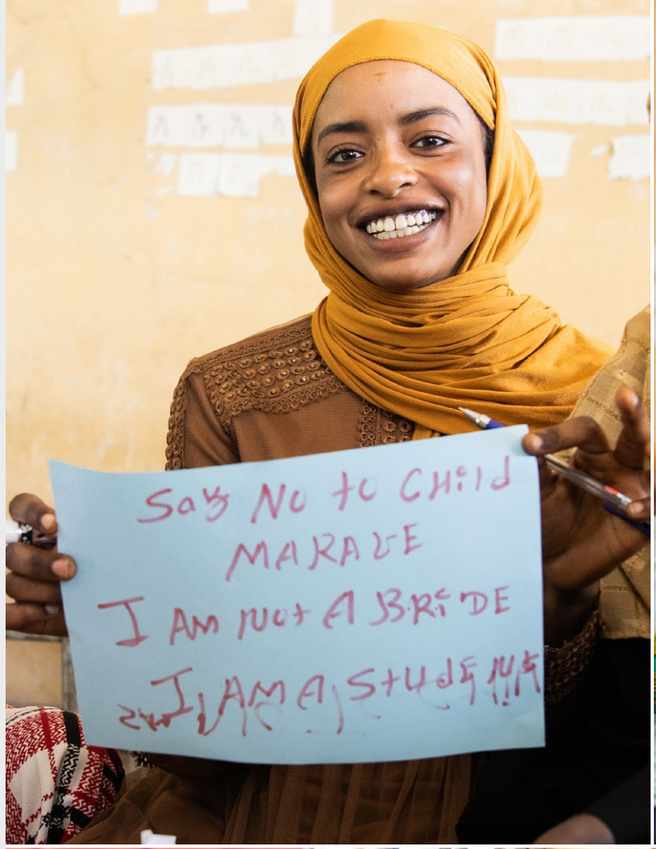
Children in conflict-affected areas such as Ethiopia's North Wollo Zone are even more vulnerable to various forms of abuse, including child trafficking. Children trafficked for sexual exploitation are at high risk of prolonged periods of sexual violence, physical injuries, sexually transmitted infections and for girls, multiple pregnancies.

Through the Joining Forces Alliance Child Protection in Emergencies (CPiE) project, funded by the German Federal Foreign Office, ChildFund is working directly with communities in the North and South Wollo zones to prevent trafficking and support individuals who have been through it, helping them to rebuild and restore their lives.

Since 2021, ChildFund has been working with children, communities and the government to raise community awareness and strengthen community-based child protection systems, empower children with knowledge on how to protect themselves, and work with authorities to identify and prosecute traffickers.
We are also advocating for the government to implement stronger legislation that aims to prevent trafficking and provide better support for child victims.

The CPiE project frequently brings children, youth, and community members together to highlight the need to stem child trafficking, as well as address other rampant child rights violations like early marriage, drug abuse, child labour, abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence.

Overall, working with various stakeholders – including the government – the project aims to improve the protection of vulnerable children and youth through strengthened prevention, risk mitigation efforts, and access to specialized child protection response services.







> We walked for 3 days to the Ethiopia-Djibouti border. When we arrived in Djibouti, we were hidden in an abandoned classroom for a week. We had to stay indoors, with little food, no toilets, and sleeping on the floor. Trafficking is so dehumanizing!
>
> ~ Said, Child Trafficking Survivor



93,224

children were supported through the Child Protection in Emergencies Project in Ethiopia.

Education in Emergencies

The Play Matters Emergency Response Project in Ethiopia

ChildFund is working with various partners to support children living in conflict affected communities with educational support, including the rehabilitation of schools, and providing furniture and scholastic materials so that children no longer miss out on their right to an education.

This includes the ongoing International Rescue Committee and The LEGO Foundation-funded Play Matters Emergency Response project which is being implemented in 10 schools in North Wollo Zone of the Amhara Region, supporting 10,136 students.

This project is supporting internally displaced persons (including children), returnees and host communities affected by war and displacement, with interventions in education (school rehabilitation, furnishing learning spaces, providing scholastic and play materials, uniforms), water, sanitation, hygiene, child protection, health and nutrition. Notably, the project's biscuit feeding project has led to increased school enrolment and retention and improved nutrition for children.

This intervention has also had a positive impact on girls' school attendance – ensuring that they do not miss out on school when they experience their monthly periods. They are trained in menstrual hygiene management and receive dignity kits containing sanitary towels, soaps, and other personal hygiene items. To improve sanitation and hygiene in schools, ChildFund has also fixed damaged water piping systems and constructed handwashing stations.

> We have never had such a feeding program in the history of this school. The number of children increased since we started this project by 20% to 30%. Last year, we had 700 children in our primary school section, this number rose to 900 when we started this project. The number in preschool also rose from 180 to 291.

Mohammed Hussein, Woldia Primary School Director



Kasahun, Kebede and Robel washing their hands at one of the handwashing stations constructed by ChildFund in their school.



Children eating high-energy biscuits at school.





Preschool children at a ChildFund-supported ECD center in Amhara Region.



10,136

school children have been supported through the Play Matters Emergency Response project implemented in 10 schools in Amhara Region, Ethiopia.

Rabiya 15, Birtukan 14, Seada 16 and Seada 15, posing with their dignity kits.

Youth Development

Youth is a critical period of transition to adulthood that can lay foundations for success or reinforce the generational cycle of poverty. In this moment of opportunity, we support youth in forming healthy behaviors and nurturing positive relationships, putting in place practices that will lead to a prosperous adulthood.

ChildFund's programs for youth are designed to promote improved economic, physical and social well-being, laying the foundation for youth to become the catalysts for change in their families, communities and countries.

To these ends, our efforts focus on:

- Safe and sustainable employment
- Formation of a healthy sexual and reproductive life
- Participation of youth in the lives of their families and communities.

HIGHLIGHTED PROJECT

Youth and women-led plastic waste management for economic wellbeing projects in Kenya and Ethiopia

To address the waste management problem and poverty levels in urban and peri-urban informal settlements, Dow Chemical, a leading global manufacturer of plastics products, has been working with ChildFund in Ethiopia (Addis Ababa) and Kenya (Nairobi) to engage youth and women in implementing waste management projects.

Overall, these projects aim to achieve the following - to model youth and women-led plastic waste management centers to support economic livelihoods through gainful waste management; to create linkages to consumers of plastic and other wastes materials and to engage schools and communities to create awareness and behavior change approaches to reinforce positive environmental practices in their communities.



Over 700,000 people

in Ethiopia and Kenya, respectively, have benefitted through ChildFund and Dow-supported waste management projects.

USAID Feed the Future – Dooleel Ndaw Ñi Promoting Positive Youth Development in Senegal







In Senegal, young people under 35 years old comprise a staggering 72.2% of the population. However, this youthful demographic faces significant challenges, including unemployment, irregular migration, and socioeconomic vulnerability.

Recognizing the untapped potential of the youth, ChildFund, in collaboration with local partner NGO PDEF and CORAF, launched the Feed the Future – Dooleel Ndaw Ñi project. With a USD 3 million investment funded by USAID over 5 years, this initiative aims to address these pressing issues and promote positive youth development in Kaolack, Kaffrine and Fatick regions.

The project adopts the transformative 4-H approach—Head, Heart, Hand, and Health—emphasizing holistic youth development. This framework promotes active youth engagement at the community level and equips young people with leadership skills.

Additionally, the initiative supports community action projects, organizes youth and civic engagement fora, and runs the Center of Excellence for Leadership, Empowerment, and Citizenship.

By combining education, empowerment, and practical engagement, the project builds the capacity of youth to become agents of change in their communities. In 2024, over 4,000 youth from 45 communities participated in the project, gaining skills in leadership, teamwork, and civic engagement.

The project's innovative approach positions youth as catalysts for socioeconomic change, fostering resilience and self-reliance within their communities. By empowering young people to lead and participate in civic and developmental initiatives, the project not only addresses immediate challenges but also lays the groundwork for sustainable, youth-driven progress across Senegal's most vulnerable regions.

HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS

Zambia Nurses and Life Skills Training Program

Since 2014, over 6,000 Zambian youth have received nursing training through an e-learning program developed by ChildFund and the African Medical and Research Foundation (AMREF), in partnership with The MasterCard Foundation. The program offered youth the opportunity to train in the field of nursing through e-learning and help address the shortage of trained health professionals. The major cause for the shortage is the limited capacity of nursing schools that can train students to meet the growing health care needs of the general population.

The e-learning component allowed nursing and midwife training schools to reach more students through technology and integrated a life skills curriculum to give students the interpersonal skills needed for the workplace. Watch the project video.

> This $7.6 million e-learning program implemented by ChildFund and AMREF in partnership with The MasterCard Foundation has trained over 6,000 youth to become nurses and midwives in Zambia.



Over
6,000
youth graduated as nurses and midwives through this e-learning program implemented by ChildFund and Amref, with support from MasterCard Foundation.







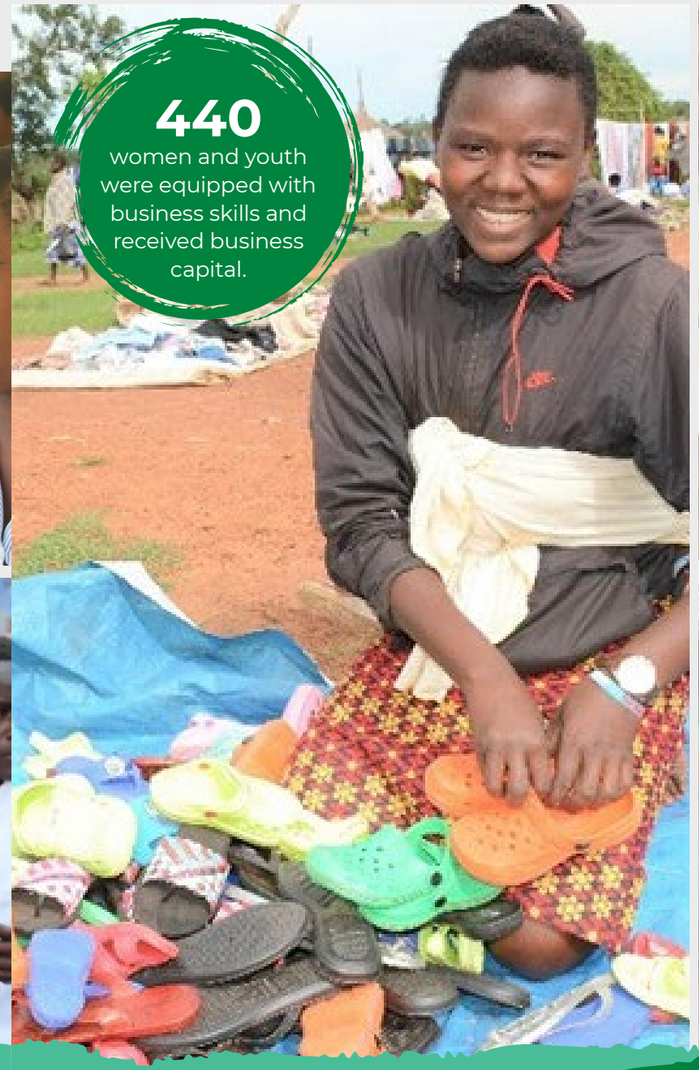
Honing Youth Skills in Uganda

ChildFund teamed up with The Coca-Cola Foundation to support youth and women in Uganda, especially teenage moms, through the Women and Youth Economic Empowerment project.

The project was designed to give young people access to valuable vocational skills that they can use to transition to the labor market, improve their lives and actively engage in their communities. The 15-month project supported 440 women and youth from Serere, Katakwi, Anuri and Dokolo districts.

The project's goal was to enable youth to increase their annual income from $101 to $162 per year – a 60% increase.

For women working in the agricultural sector, the project has supported them in navigating environmental and weather-related challenges by introducing them to resilient, drought-resistant crops, promoting crop diversification, and teaching improved methods of land management and crop protection.



440
women and youth were equipped with business skills and received business capital.





Early Childhood Development (ECD)

To ensure all children have the foundation needed to succeed, our ECD programs start with teaching parents and caregivers best parenting practices like proper childhood nutrition, how to create a safe supportive environment and the importance of social and behavioral communication, play and early engagement—including storytelling, singing and playing. ChildFund also builds ECD centers in rural communities, bringing pre-primary education closer to families who otherwise wouldn't have access.

Centers are equipped with age-appropriate play materials and learning aids including building blocks, books and clay, while teachers are trained in early childhood education, development and child protection – all key components to helping children learn and grow.

> A child's surroundings and care in their first few years lay the groundwork for the rest of their lives. Where we work in Africa, poverty, a lack of early childhood education and limited access to MCH care are detrimental to children's development.

HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS

A Strengthened Partnership for Nurturing Care in Zambia, Kenya and Mozambique

Through funding from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, ChildFund led a multi-country initiative, "A Strengthened Partnership for Nurturing Care" implemented in Kenya, Zambia and Mozambique to address the needs of young children aged 3 years and below and their caregivers.

This program aimed to ensure that infants and young children would meet developmental milestones supported by responsive male and female caregivers.

The intervention also aimed to build sub-national and community-based child protection capacity to validate child protection risks for infants and young children as well as to establish, monitor, and document plans to address these risks, as well as strengthening multi-sectoral collaboration for nurturing care.



"Come Play with Me" Project in Uganda and Ethiopia

This initiative was designed to strengthen playful parenting practices and promote growth and learning in children aged 0 to 8 years primarily through remote and hybrid activities, in communities with low access to early childhood development and educational opportunities.

The project focused on providing caregivers and their children with strategies on playful parenting both in-person and virtually via using various mediums. Key activities included:

- Contextualization, development, and broadcast of culturally relevant radio spots in local languages.
- Production and dissemination of key messages on children's health and well-being using tablets and mega-phones.
- Production and distribution of action-based playful parenting flashcards aligned with the radio spots.
- Organization of in-person meetings for caregivers, particularly parenting group listenership sessions.
- Support for the establishment of child-friendly spaces at Internally Displaced People's (IDP) camps.

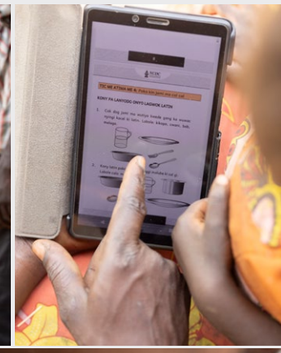
This project reached over 24,000 children and 11,000 caregivers in Ethiopia, and 10,927 children and 5,700 caregivers in Uganda.

Over **24,000** children and **11,000** caregivers participated in this project in Ethiopia.

Over **10,927** children and **5,700** caregivers participated in this project in Uganda.

> I learned about the importance of taking time to play with the children. They used to not even play around the house. My husband and I would stop them. Now we encourage it. The children are around a lot more and we spend more time together as a family. In the tablet, there are riddles and puzzles that help them with language and games that teach math. They have done better in school since we've had it. There are also lessons about nutrition, sanitation and hygiene. Play is important for them to grow.
>
> JACKLINE







Advocacy

Advocacy plays an important role in advancing ChildFund's mission to value, protect and advance the worth and rights of children. Advocacy allows us to influence government policies at local, national, and regional level, hence expanding our reach to all children impacted by the policies enacted, beyond ChildFund areas of operation.

Our advocacy priorities include online sexual exploitation and abuse of children (OSEAC), child marriage, female genital mutilation, corporal punishment, birth registration, sexual and reproductive health, and early childhood development.

ChildFund builds the capacity of child advocates and local civil society organizations and enables them to engage with and hold policy and decision makers accountable to their commitments. Our advocacy efforts at the African Union level and Regional Economic Communities in Africa provide interlinkages with advocacy efforts at the country level.



RECENT ADVOCACY WINS

Sierra Leone Acts to Ban Child Marriage

One of ChildFund's most significant wins in 2024 was the official outlawing of child marriage by lawmakers in Sierra Leone. The historic passage of the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act 2024 represents a major step forward in the organization's commitment to protecting children's rights. It is the result of our collaborative efforts with like-minded organizations and communities. Ending child marriage has been a central focus of our advocacy efforts.

This legislative win is just one part of ChildFund's broader child protection agenda.

We will continue to prioritize other critical issues, such as eliminating Female Genital Mutilation/ Cutting (FGM/C) and advocating for environmental protection. These issues remain high on our list as we work to create safe and supportive environments for every child.

ChildFund is now working with existing community structures to raise awareness and promote understanding of the new law in the areas where we operate. Through targeted campaigns and outreach, we aim to ensure that the law is widely recognized and fully implemented, bringing lasting change to communities affected by child marriage.

ChildFund and like-minded organizations push for rejection of FGM Bill in The Gambia

In 2024, The Gambia faced the introduction of a bill that sought to legalize certain aspects of female genital mutilation (FGM), following pressure from some Muslim clerics.

With The Gambia having one of the highest rates of FGM, affecting 73% of women and girls aged 15 to 49, this bill posed a major threat to ongoing efforts to protect children's rights. The United Nations and human rights groups and development organizations including ChildFund urged Members of Parliament (MPs) to block the bill.

ChildFund further mobilized a broad coalition, including children, youth groups, women's rights organizations, and grassroots movements, to challenge the bill. They used social media campaigns, advocacy visits to parliamentarians, and public demonstrations to ensure the voices of affected communities were heard.

Their efforts focused on raising awareness about the dangers of FGM and the importance of safeguarding children from such harmful practices.

Thanks to these collective efforts, the bill was rejected, marking a significant victory for child protection in The Gambia. The outcome highlighted the power of collective action and reinforced the importance of a strong legal framework for protecting children's rights.









ChildFund signs MoU with the African Union to end online sexual exploitation and abuse of children



H. E. Amb. Minata Samaté Cessouma (left), AU Commissioner for Health, Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development and ChildFund International Africa Regional Director Chege Ngugi exchange documents after signing an MoU to champion the creation of safe and secure online environments through policies and laws that respond to online sexual exploitation and abuse of children.

In February 2023, ChildFund signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the African Union Commission (AUC) to co-lead efforts to combat online sexual exploitation and abuse of children in the continent.

The MoU was signed at the AU Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia by H. E. Amb. Minata Samaté Cessouma, AU Commissioner for Health, Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development and ChildFund International Africa Regional Director, Chege Ngugi.

The MoU provides a framework for cooperation between the two institutions. ChildFund aims to use the MoU to:

- Advocate with the AU Member States to establish appropriate legal frameworks to end OSEAC.
- Mobilize international and regional public and private partners to rally behind the call to end OSEAC; and
- Sensitize the various organs of the African Union on their mandates to promote and protect children's rights online.

Advancing child rights through evidence-based advocacy



ChildFund International Africa Regional Director, Chege Ngugi and the Executive Director, ACPF displaying the signed MoU that provides a framework for collaboration to promote evidence-based advocacy for child rights.

In June 2023, ChildFund and African Child Policy Forum (ACPF) signed an MoU to jointly promote the welfare and wellbeing of children in the continent.

The purpose of this partnership is to undertake evidence-based advocacy and collaborate with the African Union (AU), African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC), East African Community (EAC), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and national governments, international human and child rights mechanisms and institutions, and other relevant institutions to promote the wellbeing of the most vulnerable children, families and communities.

The areas of collaboration include:

- Research and generation of evidence.
- Advocacy at regional and national levels, guided by evidence and analysis.
- Resource mobilisation and management towards delivering this MoU's aspirations.
- Monitoring of government's implementation of child rights commitments at the national level.
- Capacity strengthening of child rights agencies and practitioners.
- Policy analysis to produce evidence based policy advocacy and/or campaign resources, including policy briefs, continental policy briefs, reports and joint statements.

ChildFund and ACPF have since developed and disseminated the following policy briefs:

- Scale, Drivers and Impact of Online Sexual Exploitation and Abuse of Children (OSEAC) in Africa.
- Policy and Programmatic Efforts and Gaps on OSEAC in Africa.

Collaborative Action: ChildFund, AU, and ACPF's Joint Efforts Against Online Abuse

ChildFund is committed to protecting children from online sexual exploitation and abuse of children (OSEAC), working in collaboration with the African Union (AU) and the African Child Policy Forum (ACPF) to address this growing threat.

Together, they are tackling OSEAC through a comprehensive approach that includes advocacy, policy development, and the implementation of legal frameworks aimed at safeguarding children in the digital age.

Development of a Model Law to Fight Online Abuse of Children

One of the significant milestones in this partnership is the development of a Model Law on child online protection, which provides African countries with a standardized legal framework to address and prevent OSEAC across the continent.

The Model Law serves as a critical tool for member states in shaping their national laws to better protect children from online harm.

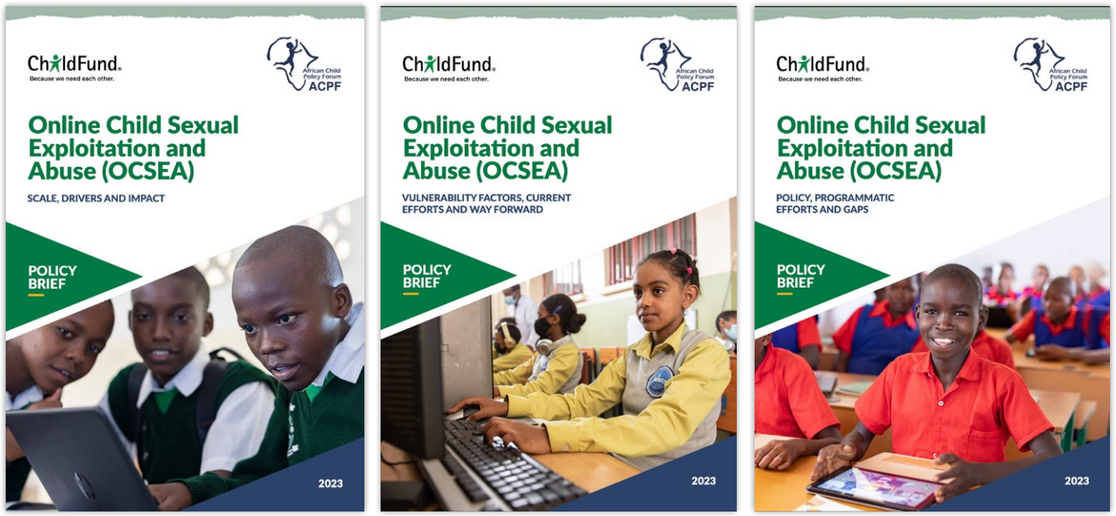
It provides a clear framework and guidelines on how to address OSEAc within the context of existing legal systems, ensuring that policies are both effective and child-centered.

The Law promotes strong, enforceable measures, including the criminalization of online sexual exploitation, the protection of children's privacy online, and the provision of support services for survivors.

Development of Policy Briefs

In addition to the Model Law, ChildFund, AU, and the ACPF have jointly developed a series of policy briefs that outline key strategies for combating OSEAC.

These briefs offer actionable recommendations for governments, policymakers, and international bodies, focusing on prevention, legal action, and victim support. They emphasize the need for a coordinated, multi-stakeholder approach, encouraging the involvement of law enforcement, the tech industry, and civil society to ensure that children are protected in all online spaces.



Our Development Partners

ChildFund Alliance
African Union
EU
End Violence Against Children
The Global Fund
USAID FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE
german cooperation DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT
KOICA Korea International Cooperation Agency
Irish Aid An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
IDRC · CRDI International Development Research Centre Centre de recherches pour le développement international
Canada
New Zealand Foreign Affairs & Trade Manatū Aorere
The World Bank
UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency
UNFPA
unicef
WFP World Food Programme
OCHA Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
mastercard foundation
Hilton Foundation
The LEGO Foundation
CAF America
Nutrition International Nourish Life
pact building local promise.
Aflatoun International
P&G
Google
Coca-Cola
Longhorn Publishers PLC expanding minds
Dow
DuPont
Davis & Shirtliff know How through experience
LEAP Africa
standard chartered
Solvatten
spowdi For a greener tomorrow



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