

ANNUAL REVIEW 2023

Di's Free to Pursue Her Dreams!

Discover her Inspiring Story on Page 12



THE YEAR WE HELPED CHILDREN RISE ABOVE!



Greetings from all of us at World Vision Malaysia!

One of the hot topics of 2023 was the cost-of-living crisis. We've all felt the pinch of rising prices, and for those living in the world's most vulnerable communities, the economic strain is pushing them to breaking point. Coupled with the global rise in conflicts, climate change and natural disasters, the challenges faced by people in need have become a daunting mountain for them to climb.

In this challenging environment, we are grateful for the **loving generosity of sponsors and donors like you**. Because of your contributions, we could equip vulnerable people (such as Di, the girl on our cover) to become more resilient to the shocks they're facing. With every drop of clean water, every bountiful vegetable garden, every child in school... those in poverty are seeing the light of hope come up over the horizon.

In this **Annual Review**, we want to give you a comprehensive look at our work over the past year, packed with facts and inspiring real-life stories. As you read it, we hope that you'll gain a deeper appreciation for how your contributions are helping children to rise above the challenges they're facing. **Everything we do – you make it possible!**

2024 is well underway, and already we have been uplifted by the support shown by individuals and organisations with a heart for children. The story of how you're making a difference is one that will be told for a long time to come, and we can't wait to see where we're headed next!

With heartfelt thanks,



Terry Leong
Chief Executive Officer
World Vision Malaysia



Jacob Lee
Board Chair
World Vision Malaysia

WE ARE WORLD VISION

Our focus is on helping the most vulnerable children overcome poverty and injustice to experience fullness of life. Inspired by our Christian faith, our work reaches children no matter their background or the dangerous places in which they live.

With over 70 years of experience and expertise to draw from, our dedicated staff across the world empower children to live lives filled with joy and go further than they

could ever have imagined. Through proven and effective development, relief and advocacy practices, we help communities become self-sufficient and bring real, lasting change.

Alongside our partners, we positively **impacted the lives of more than 300 million vulnerable children around the world** during our 2023 Financial Year.

*Our vision for every child,
life in all its fullness.*

*Our prayer for every heart,
the will to make it so.*





OUR VALUES

We are Christian

serving all people, regardless of faith.

We are committed to the poor

striving to bring an end to suffering through our service.

We value people

believing every individual is unique, with intrinsic worth and deserving of dignity.

We are stewards

committed to efficient resource management for maximum impact.

We are partners

knowing transformational change happens when we work together.

We are responsive

steadfast in bringing hope and assistance to communities in the world's toughest places.

WORLD VISION'S GLOBAL IMPACT

In a year defined by the uptick in the cost of living and the rising tide of global conflict, World Vision's work empowered vulnerable children, families and communities to build resilience and rise above poverty. **Here's a quick look at our global impact in 2023:**



3 million children were part of **child sponsorship** in 1,088 area programmes around the world



Over 2.1 million advocacy actions taken by World Vision supporters who **campaign**ed for vulnerable children in 40 countries



15.2 million children in **54 countries** benefitted from **child sponsorship** programmes



229,513 children under five were **treated for wasting** (or severe malnutrition) in 13 countries, and **more than 83%** recovered



We contributed to **752 policy changes** that address the root causes of vulnerability for children



3.1 million people gained access to clean water, including **1,534 schools** serving **591,000** children, and **514** healthcare facilities



We **strengthened education systems** by reaching over **11,660 education officials** and community volunteers, **194,810 parents**, and distributed **383,448 education resources**



We reached **11.5 million people** with **food assistance programming** and another **9.8 million people** with **cash and voucher programming** across a total of **54 countries**



More than **158,000** predominantly **smallholder farmers** have been trained in **improved and sustainable agricultural** and **Natural Resource Management techniques**



Humanitarian assistance reached **36.4 million people** (including **18.8 million children**) in response to **76 natural and man-made disasters** across **60 countries**



Over **1,375 child protection projects** were implemented in 40 countries, including over **1.1 million children** who participated in actions to **end violence against children**



World Vision provided assistance to **1 out of every 4 people** reached by humanitarian aid globally

WHAT IS CHILD SPONSORSHIP?

Answer: Child Sponsorship is World Vision's flagship programme for long-term, sustainable transformation.

Our unique approach tackles the root causes of poverty and empowers children, families and communities to build a brighter future for themselves. When you sponsor a child, your contribution doesn't go directly to your child but rather into a pool of funds that brings sustainable, transformational change to your child's community. This includes:

- improving children's education opportunities
- strengthening child protection
- helping families diversify and grow their livelihoods
- improving access to clean water, nutritious food and reliable healthcare
- building community resilience to disasters

That's why, for every child sponsored, at least four other children benefit too.

Sponsors are encouraged to send letters, cards and gifts to their sponsored child. There's nothing more rewarding than watching a child grow and thrive through your support!



GLOBAL CHILD SPONSORSHIP FACTS

- Over the last 12 years, **88%** of the severely malnourished children we treated made a full recovery
- Over the last three years, child sponsors helped equip more than **200,000 farmers** with seeds, livestock and tools to improve production, increase income, and provide for their children
- In 2023, 34,000 children took part in **Chosen**, a sponsorship invitation that enables children to choose their own sponsor. Read a **Chosen** testimony on page 20



In 2023, World Vision Malaysia supported **60,300** children through Child Sponsorship, transforming communities in:

Asian countries

- Bangladesh
- Cambodia
- China
- Indonesia
- Mongolia
- Myanmar
- Nepal
- Philippines
- Sri Lanka
- Vietnam

Non-Asian countries

- Democratic Republic of Congo
- Lebanon
- Lesotho

THE IMPACT YOU MADE IN 2023



Health & Nutrition

- **11,199 children** had their growth monitored consistently
- **9,840 children** grew their awareness of health issues
- **10,437 pregnant mothers and mothers with children under 2** gained knowledge of maternal health and good nutrition



Water, Sanitation & Hygiene

- **8,435 people** have access to proper handwashing stations in their communities
- **3,326 people** have access to latrines
- **5,737 people** have clean water in their communities



Education

- **17,092 children** received educational support such as stationeries, schoolbags and books
- **9,235 children** are learning literacy and numeracy skills
- **13,544 youths and children** gained helpful life skills in areas like self-protection, child abuse knowledge and digital safety



Livelihoods

- **4,536 individuals (including children)** were trained in disaster risk reduction so their livelihoods would be more resilient to emergencies
- **4,090 people** learned how to grow their incomes (e.g. raising animals, setting up small businesses and planting home gardens)
- **14,180 savings group members** participated actively



Child Protection

- **14,086 children** participated in children's clubs
- **34,291 community members** know what to do when a child protection issue is raised
- **33,306 parents** learned how to better protect their children



Rajika (middle) taking part in a children's club activity.

Highlight: Rajika Makes an Impact!

Before joining the Children's Club in her community, 14-year-old Rajika from Sri Lanka had a fear of presenting in front of others. By taking part in various activities, her talents came to the forefront and she began to understand herself in a positive way. Said Rajika:

*"I had the opportunity to participate in World Vision's **End Violence against Children** campaign. I performed in a drama on the negative effects of parents' alcohol and drug use on children... I have become a happy, confident and strong girl, and I believe that I can face the future without fear!"*



Turn the page to see how we're empowering girls like Rajika to make this world a safer place!

1,000 GIRLS

HELPING GIRLS LIVE FREE OF FEAR!



No girl should have to live in fear, but they often find themselves in danger everywhere. Poverty pushes it to another level. In many impoverished and marginalised communities, many girls are forced to drop out of school to work, while others must marry and bear children before they are ready.

At World Vision, we think that enough is enough. And through the **1,000 Girls campaign**, we sought to put an end to this state of affairs! Our objective: **find child sponsors for 1,000 girls by the International Day of the Girl on 11 October 2023.**

During the campaign launch at The Gardens Hotel (which generously sponsored the venue) on 15 July, we were privileged to have Di from Vietnam join us. With the support of World Vision and her Malaysian sponsor Ms. Heng, she was empowered to stand tall.



Di lives in Tua Chua, one of the poorest districts in Vietnam. Early marriage is common there, with many girls attending school till they are 10 then dropping out to help their family with farm work while waiting to be married off. Most of Di's female relatives were married at 14 or 15, and became mothers soon after.

When Di was in Grade 8 (14 years old), she was also forced to drop out of school. **As soon as World Vision staff learned about her situation, they stepped in.** Alongside local partners, they visited Di's family multiple times to persuade them to let Di return to school. Eventually, they agreed. World Vision also supported Di and her family with economic assistance and school supplies.



Di (right) with Malaysian actress Koe Yeet

Today, Di is the first person from her village to enter university, pursuing her dream of becoming a pre-school teacher at the Hanoi National University of Education. For both Di and her sponsor Ms. Heng, this was a special moment:

"I am grateful to World Vision and my sponsor. Without them, I would not have all the opportunities I've had. I hope more girls will be given the same opportunities so they can live a life full of possibilities," - Di.

"Thank you for giving me this opportunity to be beside you in your journey. I didn't know that the little things I did would actually [make] such a big impact. I hope that you'll be successful and in return give others this same opportunity." - Ms. Heng

Watch Di's story:



Di also sat down with Malaysian TV and film actress **Koe Yeet** to talk about her story and have some girl talk! Watch the complete series on YouTube here:



In the end, the **1,000 Girls campaign** succeeded beyond our wildest expectations, **smashing the 1,000 girls sponsored goal!** Thank you to everyone who stepped up to empower a girl like Di. We hope you'll keep walking with her on her incredible journey!

ADVOCACY – SPEAKING UP FOR CHILDREN!

#RunForChildren 2023



Mahomed (left) with his family at the run.

On 7 May 2023, runners from across Malaysia gathered at Dataran DBKL for the **2023 World Vision Malaysia #RunForChildren!** After two years of virtual runs, it was thrilling to see so many in person running 42 minutes for the 42 rights of children.

More than 2,500 participants raised over **RM190,000** for our global child protection efforts. Among them was 32-year-old Mahomed from Leicester, UK, who came with his wife Zeenat, 31, and their two children. Mahomed, who is severely visually impaired, ran accompanied by a volunteer guide.

Said Mahomed: *“We’re lucky to have things like free healthcare and education. Life is much easier for my children than for children in other parts of the world. It’s great that we can support them and make a difference.”*

Our thanks to Mahomed and everyone who ran with us! Your efforts are making children worldwide safer.

Ready to defend children from danger? Join the Run for Children 2024 here:



30-Hour Famine 2023

The annual 30-Hour Famine is a global movement that empowers Malaysia's youths to stand against hunger and poverty by learning about global issues, fasting and raising funds.

30-Hour Famine Ambassador 2023 **Victor Wong** led our Famine Fighters to Strike Out Hunger! The well-loved singer-songwriter visited our Tulid Community Development Programme in Sabah, where he got a first-hand look at our work. He even taught children oral hygiene through song! Deeply touched, Victor said:

"The community here faces many challenges, and I want to express my gratitude to the local leaders and volunteers for their time and sacrifices in helping the community."

In total, close to **8,000 participants raised RM726,972**, turning hunger into hope for vulnerable children and communities. The Countdown event was held at the Cheras North International Convention Centre, where Victor and our supporting celebrities celebrated our Famine Fighters' achievements with entertaining performances!

Looking to be part of the fight against hunger? The 30-Hour Famine returns in 2024 with the new Famine Festival format! Join us today:



EMERGENCY RELIEF – SYRIA-TÜRKIYE EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE



On 6 February 2023, two devastating earthquakes and numerous aftershocks hit Southeastern Türkiye and Northwest Syria, killing over 55,000, injuring nearly 130,000 and leaving millions homeless.

World Vision, backed by the generous contributions of our donors and supporters, facilitated the implementation of many diverse relief and rehabilitation projects in the affected areas. This included:

- Child Protection
- Mental Health and Psychosocial Services
- Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH)
- Livelihoods
- Health & Nutrition
- Education

Thanks to our donors, over **RM860,000 in donations was raised** for the Syria-Türkiye Earthquake Response. Here are some of the projects your generous contributions helped support (as of 31 August 2023):



547,006 people were provided with clean and safe water through water trucking and/or new water points.



36,517 children were reached by supporting affected schools with learning materials.



21,857 families received multi-purpose cash assistance to cover their basic needs, such as food, shelter, and WASH items.



32,603 children received psychosocial support kits.



11,463 beneficiaries were provided with ready-to-eat meals in areas where food was neither available nor affordable.



17,344 girls and boys benefitted from fuel and heaters provided to schools.



144,769 people were reached by health consultations.



22,466 people gained access to rehabilitated health centres.

Earthquakes won't stop Sahar from learning!

Nine-year-old Sahar, who has endured war and displacement, was further traumatised when the earthquake destroyed her home and school in Northwest Syria. "I am afraid to go to school. I don't want the building to fall down when I start studying," Sahar said. With World Vision's support, she resumed her education, and is on the path towards new dreams.

"I have five friends. We play together, they're like my sisters. I love my teacher who helped me to go back to school," says Sahar. "I want to finish my education and be a doctor!"



HELPING AT HOME – OUR WORK IN MALAYSIA

2023 was a time for us to spread our wings in Malaysia, with significant progress being made in our work among local vulnerable communities. Here's our highlight reel from a memorable year:



One Goal Malaysia

In 2023, One Goal Malaysia's Eat Right to Play Right Programme made further inroads into urban poor communities, inspiring children across the Klang Valley to eat well and live well through the power of badminton:

- **We launched 2 new programme areas** in PPR (Program Perumahan Rakyat) Kota Damansara and PPR Kg Baru Hicom
- **156 children participated in our badminton training programme.** In between training sessions, the children learned about nutrition, eating balanced meals and living healthily
- **PPR Lembah Subang 2** completed its programme, and the participants graduated with the knowledge they need to live healthier lives
- 61 mothers participated in **Community Kitchen** workshops, where they learned new recipes, and how to prepare balanced, economical meals for their families
- Volunteer Coach Training sessions were conducted, empowering **35 volunteer coaches** to teach children about badminton and good nutrition

Uplifting Communities in Sabah

Through your generous contributions, our Community Development Programmes (CDPs) in Sabah (Mukim Tulid and Mukim Tatalaan) achieved the following:



Community Empowerment

✦ We successfully handed over a **local pre-school in Tulid CDP** to the pre-school committee, supported by two early childhood educators

- **118 Starter Group members** were trained and are serving on local committees such as Child Protection Committees, Health Committees and Farmers' Groups
- There are now **nine Children's Clubs**, with 330 children participating
- **55 of the most vulnerable families (Keluarga Prihatin)** were supported through home visits
- **90 Starter Group members and community leaders** participated in annual planning and reflection sessions



Health & Nutrition

- **82 mothers** benefited from the home garden initiative and were able to provide supplementary nutrition to their children
- **44 mothers and fathers** participated in Mothers' Cooking Group activities
- In Tatalaan CDP, **37 mothers** attended nutrition workshops and participated in cooking competitions
- **346 households** benefited from a continuous clean water supply
- In Tulid CDP, health awareness sessions were conducted with support from local partners. **69 adults and 51 children** benefited



One of these educators is the remarkable Pn. Allie! Read her inspiring story now:



SNAPSHOTS

Christine's Eye-Opening Journey in Tua Chua, Vietnam

When it comes to understanding how you're changing a child's life, seeing is believing. In December 2022, 12 child sponsors visited the Tua Chua, Vietnam Area Programme to see what their contributions had done for their sponsored children and their communities!



Those who went on the visit left as firm believers in the power of child sponsorship. Among them was Christine, who met her sponsored child A Co.

Despite the language barrier, she was able to strike up a rapport with A Co, no doubt helped by the letters he had written to her. Christine was gratified that A Co could learn and grow up healthy through her contributions. She reflected:

"I think the most rewarding [part of child sponsorship] is seeing the child grow... and progress in life. This is the first, and... probably the last time I'm going to meet him and I think I will remember this experience for the rest of my life."

To see more of Christine's incredible experience, scan this:



The value of a choice

Children don't often get to make decisions for themselves. That's why we introduced **Chosen** – a child sponsorship initiative that lets children choose their own child sponsors. This simple act reaffirms their dignity and changes their futures.



On **14 May 2023**, members of Tabernacle of David Church learned which child from Lanao Del Norte, Philippines had chosen them. Among the sponsors-to-be was **Pastor Irene Chong**. We sat down to ask what being chosen means to her.

Pastor Irene was struck by the fact that her sponsored child was named Jhon. "When I had my first child, I thought that, if it was a boy, he would be named Jonathan." She is glad that she can bless those in need, one child at a time.



"Jhon, I hope that you will grow to know that you are valuable and precious... you are significant and you have a good future. Be happy, keep yourself well, and God bless you."

Gifts of Hope

In 2023, **RM587,266** was raised through **Gifts of Hope**, and life-changing gifts were delivered to:



Cambodia



Democratic
Republic of Congo



Malaysia



Mongolia



Nepal



Philippines



Vietnam

Here's how your gifts are lighting up the lives of vulnerable **Children**, **Families** and **Communities**:

Light for Children

- **2,500 children** benefited from better equipment at health centres
- **156 children** got badminton equipment and took part in our nutrition programme
- **307 children** received learning resources like books and stationeries
- **Children at 8 Children's Clubs** enjoyed nutritious snacks and drinks during activities

Light for Families

- **23 families** received cows and training to rear them
- **245 families** received ducks; 5 families started fish farming
- **200 families** received seedlings and tools to grow crops and home gardens

Light for Communities

- **1,300 children** benefited from clean toilets
- **858 households** benefited from street lights
- **44 disabled people** received wheelchairs
- **2,291 households (with 7,430 children)** can now use handwashing stations

A better way to stay clean at school

"We used to stand in line to use the restroom during break time. This made us late for classes as there were not enough sinks and toilets, and some were outdated or broken. Now, everything is new and operates without problems. I want to thank World Vision for the new toilets."
- Munkhtulga, a student from Mongolia (looking at camera).



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS FY23

SOURCES OF DONATIONS RECEIVED (IN MYR)



Child Sponsorship

38,812,841



Private Non Sponsorship*

5,635,526



Emergency Relief

942,482



Interest and Others

109,155

TOTAL INCOME

45,500,004

UTILISATION OF FUNDS RECEIVED (IN MYR)



International Programmes

35,327,981



Malaysian Programmes

1,480,102



Emergency Relief and Rehabilitation

884,406



Fundraising, Donor Care and Administration

8,239,226

TOTAL FUNDS AND EXPENDITURE

45,931,715

Shortfall**

(431,711)

These highlights cover our activities and performance for our financial year, October 2022 to September 2023.

*Private Non Sponsorship (Donations received through non-child sponsorship sources e.g. Community Funds, Gifts of Hope, 30-Hour Famine Fund)

**This shortfall in funding was covered by our reserves.

ACCOUNTABILITY AND GOVERNANCE

World Vision Malaysia is committed to ensuring the proper and responsible use of contributions received. All projects are appraised, managed and monitored by World Vision Malaysia according to strict cost control policies and audits that govern us as an international humanitarian organisation.

For the Financial Year 2023:

- **83% (RM37,692,489)** was used to support community development projects, emergency relief and work by local charities
- **18% (RM8,239,226)** of contributions received were spent on Fundraising, Donor Care and Administration

Due to a fundraising shortfall, we used RM431,711 of reserve funds to fulfil our commitments in 2023. As a result, an additional 1% was added to our total expenditures, which is reflected in the percentages above.

World Vision Malaysia's Audit Committee, comprising Board Members Datuk Ho Hon Sang, Emeritus Prof. Dr. P. T. Thomas and Esther Ong, monitored the use of funds, reviewed financial statements and managed the appointment of our external auditor. In 2023, PKF PLT was appointed to perform our annual financial audit.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Asli Mechanical Sdn Bhd

Esther Ong Chen Woon
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**Help the world's most vulnerable children
rise above the challenges they face!**

Find out more at worldvision.com.my



World Vision helps the most vulnerable children overcome poverty and injustice to experience fullness of life. We help children of all backgrounds, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity or gender, even in the most dangerous places, inspired by our Christian faith.



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