

HOPE IN ACTION NEWSLETTER

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World Vision
Lesotho

Issue 1 : December 2024



Empowering Communities, Inspiring Change: Highlights from Quarter 1

We opened the year with a powerful **Annual Day of Prayer** under the theme “**Christ at the Centre**”, grounding our work in faith and purpose as we embark on a year of transformation. This quarter has been marked by impactful initiatives that reflect our unwavering commitment to creating lasting change for children and communities across Lesotho. From launching the bold **#ENOUGH** Campaign to end child hunger to championing environmental stewardship through tree planting, we’ve seen incredible collaboration among partners, communities, and faith leaders. Together, we’ve made strides in disaster resilience, gender equality, and child protection while continuing to prioritize staff well-being and inclusion. Join us as we celebrate these milestones and look ahead to even greater achievements in the year to come!

Top News

#ENOUGH Campaign Launch: World Vision Lesotho Takes a Bold Step to End Child Hunger

Discover how the **#ENOUGH** Campaign is rallying partners and communities to secure a hunger-free future for every child.

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Newsletter Highlight

Planting Seeds of Hope – Regreening Communities for a Sustainable Future!

World Vision Lesotho partnered with Pitseng communities, faith leaders, and the Ministry of Environment and Forestry to plant **1,000 indigenous trees**, promoting sustainability and combating climate change. Together, we're creating a greener, more resilient Lesotho.

Inside this Edition

- A bold step to end hunger with the **#ENOUGH Campaign**.
- **Her Majesty** champions girls voices on International day of the Girl child.
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- Children take over on World Children's Day
- Providing Lifesaving Support to vulnerable families amidst Lesotho's Food insecurity crisis.
- Ensuring Education in the face of adversity: Mobilizing resources for disaster- resilient schools
- **Regreening Communities** for a sustainable future

Annual Day of Prayer: Christ at the Centre



"For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together."
Colossians 1:16-17

We began the year in prayer, uniting as a team under the theme "**Christ at the Centre**" and reflecting on Colossians 1:16-17: *"For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together."*

[Read more inside!](#)

Inspiring Transformations, One Story at a Time

The Power of Stories

Stories have the extraordinary ability to inspire change, unite hearts, and amplify voices that might otherwise go unheard.



Lerato Brown
Communications and Marketing Manager

Editor's Note

At World Vision Lesotho, we believe in the transformative power of storytelling as a cornerstone of advocacy. Through the voices of children and communities, we uncover the real challenges they face, the triumphs they achieve, and the resilience they embody. Every image captured, every narrative shared, is more than a glimpse into someone's life—it's an invitation to act, to care, and to stand with those who need us most. Documenting these stories is not just about reporting; it's about preserving moments of courage, hope, and determination. These voices become the catalyst for systemic change, reminding decision-makers and all of us why the fight for a just, equitable future must never waver.

As we turn the pages of this issue, I invite you to immerse yourself in the lives and dreams of the children and families we serve. Their stories are a call to action, urging us to do more, to advocate louder, and to partner stronger. Together, through storytelling and the relentless pursuit of change, we can transform lives and create a brighter, more inclusive future for every child in Lesotho. Let's use our voices to elevate theirs. Let's ensure their stories are not only heard but acted upon.



Reflecting on Progress, Charting the Way Forward

As we step into this new fiscal year, we are deeply encouraged by the incredible work that God continues to do through World Vision Lesotho. The challenges before us are indeed significant—particularly the El Niño crisis, which has left 700,000 Basotho facing severe food insecurity. Yet, even amidst these hardships, we remain unwavering in our mission to serve and are filled with hope, knowing that Christ is at the center of all we do.

This fiscal year, we are called to deepen our commitment to protecting, nourishing, and empowering the most vulnerable; the children and families hardest hit by this crisis. Our vision for FY25 is rooted in ensuring no child is left behind. Together, we aim to build resilience, restore dignity, and strengthen the foundations of our communities, even in the face of adversity.

None of this would be possible without the invaluable partnerships God has blessed us with. Collaborating with the Government of Lesotho, the European Union, EU Civil Protection & Humanitarian Aid, U.S. Agency International Development (USAID), UNICEF Lesotho, and our corporate and faith-based partners has enabled us to respond swiftly and decisively to the food insecurity crisis. Through these partnerships, we have launched emergency food assistance programs, scaled up life-saving interventions, and reaffirmed our belief that every child deserves access to food, clean water, education, and protection.

Looking ahead, FY25 will see us leveraging these partnerships to address urgent needs while driving long-term, sustainable solutions. We will expand our work in food security, WASH, child protection, and human trafficking prevention, while amplifying our advocacy efforts through the ENOUGH campaign to end child hunger and malnutrition. Most importantly, we will elevate the voices of children, especially girls, ensuring their needs and dreams remain at the forefront of our mission.



James Chifwelu
National Director

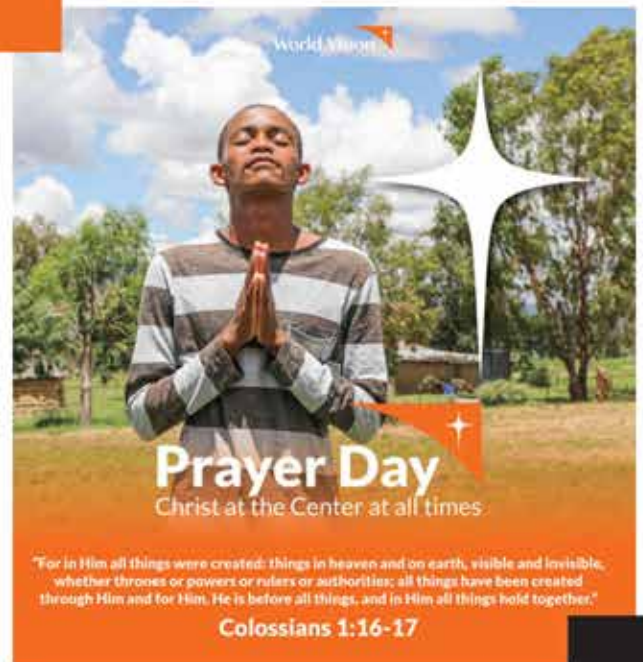
In these challenges lie opportunities for transformation. Through innovation, compassion, and collaboration, we will continue to pave the way for lasting change, creating a future where every child in Lesotho can thrive. Our faith in God's provision and guidance will remain our cornerstone as we pursue this vision with determination and hope.

To all our partners, supporters, and staff—thank you for your unwavering dedication. Together, let us move forward in faith and love, knowing that our collective efforts are making a profound and lasting difference.

Annual Day of Prayer

CHRIST AT THE CENTER

World Vision Lesotho joined the global partnership in hosting the Annual Day of Prayer, marking the beginning of the year with reflection, unity, and spiritual renewal. This year's theme, "Christ at the Center," inspired by Colossians 1:16-17, reminds us that all things are created through Him and for Him, and in Him all things hold together.



The Annual Day of Prayer is a treasured tradition, where staff across the globe dedicate time to seek God's guidance, offer prayers for the children and communities we serve, and uplift the partners who help make our mission possible. The day provided an opportunity for staff across the globe to come together in prayer, seeking God's guidance for the year ahead. At World Vision Lesotho, we prayed for the nation, the Basotho people, and the children and communities we serve, reaffirming our dedication to creating lasting change.

Read the full article [here](#) for more on how we celebrated this special day and embraced our call to serve with Christ at the center of all we do.



ADVOCATING FOR CHANGE



Hiompho, 13 years old
Poet and child champion

World Vision Lesotho at the 44th Ordinary Session of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child

As part of our ongoing commitment to addressing child hunger and malnutrition, World Vision Lesotho participated in the 44th Ordinary Session of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child. During this pivotal gathering, World Vision delivered a bold statement on our continued advocacy efforts to tackle one of the most pressing issues affecting children across the continent.

In alignment with our **ENOUGH Campaign**, we reaffirmed our unwavering commitment to ending child hunger and malnutrition, which stands as a barrier to every child's potential. Our statement highlighted the crucial need for collective action to ensure no child is left behind, as we strive to build a world where every child has access to enough nourishing food to thrive.

The statement emphasized the alignment of the **ENOUGH Campaign** with Sustainable Development Goal 2 on zero hunger, underscoring our vision for a world where every child is nourished and empowered to grow and develop to their full potential. As part of this global effort, we continue to call for stronger commitments from governments, international organizations, and communities to ensure the eradication of child hunger and malnutrition.

In our statement, we declared:

"World Vision continues to launch its ambitious ENOUGH Campaign to address child hunger and malnutrition. The Campaign aligns with Sustainable Development Goal 2 on zero hunger and envisions a world where every child enjoys enough nourishing food and thrives."

Maseisa Ntlama

Through our advocacy and the continued push of the **ENOUGH Campaign**, we aim to foster solidarity and ignite action from all sectors to combat child hunger and malnutrition at local, national, and global levels. Read the full [statement here](#).



Maseisa Ntlama,
Advocacy, Partnering and External Engagement lead

WORLD VISION LESOTHO PARTNERS WITH THE GOVERNMENT TO COMBAT CHILD HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION



At World Vision Lesotho, we understand that partnerships with key stakeholders, including the government, are essential to addressing critical issues like child hunger and malnutrition. We believe that collaboration is key to achieving lasting change, and this is why we are consistently aligned with the Government of Lesotho's efforts to tackle food insecurity. On November 2024, we had the privilege of meeting with the Minister of Agriculture, Food Security, and Nutrition, Hon. Thabo Mofosi where we officially introduced the #ENOUGH Campaign—a bold initiative aimed at eradicating child hunger and improving food security for vulnerable communities across the country.



Hon. Minister, Thabo Mofosi with Mr. James Chifwela, World Vision Lesotho National Director

During our meeting, we shared the vision behind the #ENOUGH Campaign, which seeks to raise awareness about the urgency of addressing hunger and malnutrition in Lesotho, particularly for children who are most at risk. We emphasized the need for a unified approach that includes both government action and community-based solutions to ensure sustainable food security. In this context, we discussed practical strategies that can be implemented to increase access to nutritious food, improve agricultural practices, and create resilient systems to support communities in the face of ongoing challenges like droughts and climate change.



Meeting with the Minister of Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition

The meeting culminated in an invitation extended to the Minister for the official launch of the #ENOUGH Campaign on 5th December 2024, marking an important milestone in our ongoing commitment to combating food insecurity in Lesotho. Together with the Government of Lesotho, we aim to ensure that every child has enough food to grow, learn, and thrive. By working together, we believe we can create a future where no child goes to bed hungry, and where food security is not a privilege, but a basic human right for every child in Lesotho.



Partnering for Change: Combating Child Hunger and Malnutrition

World Vision Lesotho's commitment to ending child hunger and malnutrition in the country is deeply embedded in our **#ENOUGH Campaign**, which aims to amplify children's voices and drive collective action.

As part of this effort, World Vision Lesotho joined the Lesotho Council of Non-Governmental Organizations (LCN) and other partners at the Agriculture, Environment, and Natural Resources Commission meeting to discuss collaborative strategies to address the growing issue of child malnutrition. The discussions were centered on how we can pool our resources, expertise, and collective efforts to strengthen the country's response to the ongoing food insecurity crisis.



Creating Lasting Change for Children

Through the **ENOUGH Campaign**, World Vision Lesotho is advocating for the inclusion of children's perspectives in all conversations surrounding hunger, nutrition, and food security. By empowering children to raise their voices and share their experiences, we are ensuring that the most affected populations are at the forefront of shaping solutions. The campaign emphasizes the importance of holistic approaches, combining access to nutritious food, education, and long-term resilience-building strategies to create lasting change for children and communities across Lesotho.



Partnerships towards ending Child Hunger

The goal of the **ENOUGH Campaign** is clear: to ensure that more children benefit from improved food security, better nutrition, and enhanced resilience to the shocks that threaten their well-being. By partnering with various stakeholders including government, civil society organizations, and local communities; World Vision Lesotho is working towards a future where no child in Lesotho faces hunger or malnutrition. Together, we can make a significant difference, ensuring that every child can grow, thrive, and achieve their full potential.

With enough people like you, we can ensure there is:

ENOUGH

to end child hunger and malnutrition

Lesotho Takes a Bold Step: Launch of the #ENOUGH Campaign to End Child Hunger and Malnutrition

ENOUGH

Act #ENOUGH

Today, we take a bold step towards a world where every child has ENOUGH nourishing food to thrive, as we launch the transformative ENOUGH Campaign.

On the 5th of December 2024, Lesotho took a bold and significant step towards ending child hunger and malnutrition with the official launch of the #ENOUGH Campaign at Hlalele High School in the Rothe Area Programme.

In partnership with the government, local communities, and organizations, we are uniting in our shared commitment to ensure that every child has access to enough nourishing food to not only survive, but thrive. This momentous occasion serves as a call to action for all of us to take a stand against child hunger, demanding:



ENOUGH food

every child to ensure they grow and develop to their full potential.



ENOUGH action

from governments to prioritize child nutrition and combat food insecurity.



ENOUGH Solidarity

from all sectors of society to come together and end the devastating impact of malnutrition on children's health, education, and future



ENOUGH

END CHILD HUNGER NOW

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- Advocate for better child nutrition policies.
- Donate to programs fighting hunger.
- Share stories to raise awareness.
- Support ethical and sustainable food systems.



Say #ENOUGH

This is our moment to act. The #ENOUGH Campaign is a collective effort to ensure that no child goes to bed hungry, and with your support, we can make this vision a reality. Stand with us, share this message, and use your voice to inspire change. Together, we will end child hunger and pave the way for a healthier, brighter future for all.

Child Hunger is Solvable

The launch event was a reminder that child hunger is solvable, but it requires urgent and coordinated action. As we stand united in this cause, we are calling on every individual to join the fight and help amplify this message.

Together, we demand an end to child hunger and malnutrition—a cause that needs your voice, your action, and your support.

Here are four ways YOU can make a difference:

1. **Advocate** for better child nutrition policies by engaging with policymakers and urging them to prioritize children's needs.
2. **Donate** to programs fighting hunger to help fund initiatives that provide nourishing meals to vulnerable children.
3. **Share stories** to raise awareness about the impact of hunger and malnutrition on children and how we can help.
4. **Support** ethical and sustainable food systems by promoting practices that ensure food security for future generations.





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HER MAJESTY CHAMPIONS GIRLS' VOICES ON INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL

Girls Vision for the future



From Left: Hon. Ntsoelike Motsoaledi, Minister of Education and Training, Her Majesty Queen 'Masenate Mohato Seeiso, World Vision Lesotho Champion in Child Protection, Mr. James Chibwele, World Vision Lesotho National Director



Let us honor these voices by breaking down barriers and building a future where every girl can thrive with hope, dignity, and opportunity

Her Majesty Queen 'Masenate Mohato Seeiso

On October 11th, World Vision Lesotho celebrated the International Day of the Girl under the theme 'Girls' Vision for the Future.' The event provided a platform for young girls to courageously share their stories, highlight the challenges they face, and propose solutions to barriers such as education inequality and child marriage.

Their voices resonated with a powerful call to action: to listen, support, and work towards creating a brighter future for every girl. Her Majesty Queen Masenate Mohato Seeiso, World Vision Lesotho's Champion in Child Protection, attended the event and echoed this commitment: "Let us honor these voices by breaking down barriers and building a future where every girl can thrive with hope, dignity, and opportunity."



This day underscored the importance of placing girls' voices at the forefront of advocacy efforts, ensuring their vision shapes the path to lasting change. World Vision Lesotho remains steadfast in amplifying these voices and turning their aspirations into reality. [Read more](#)

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11th OCT

International **DAY OF THE Girl Child**

"A girl child should be empowered and equipped with self-defense skills to protect themselves. I plead with the government to see to it that girls are taken care of in order to have everlasting generation."

Lomile, a student at Bethel High School

WORLD VISION COMMEMORATES INTERNATIONAL DAY OF DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

Empowering the next generation for a resilient future



Children showcased their preparedness by participating in simulations, demonstrating skills to handle emergencies. Their readiness ensures safer communities for everyone!

On Disaster Risk Reduction Day, World Vision Lesotho, in partnership with the Disaster Management Authority of Lesotho, gathered at Kolojane Primary School to commemorate the global event with local communities. During the celebration, 14-year-old Ramakhetheng Monyane delivered a poignant poem highlighting the effects of climate change on his community. His words, "Climate change is really affecting us. When we were growing up, we knew this time of year in Lesotho was summer. But now, we are getting snow and strong winds instead," resonated deeply, reminding everyone of the pressing need to act now. Ramakhetheng's message is a powerful call to action, urging all of us to take climate change seriously for the sake of the next generation.

The theme of this year's event, "Empowering the Next Generation for a Resilient Future," was further reinforced by Nthabiseng Manyehlis, who delivered a compelling speech on the importance of collective action to protect the environment and build resilience. She emphasized the urgency of preventing further environmental degradation and preparing for the inevitable disasters that climate change brings. "Let's help keep the environment from degrading any further. We must be prepared for disasters to come and work together to make our land a safer place to thrive. By improving our ways, we can ensure we are ready when disaster strikes," Nthabiseng said, urging her peers and elders alike to unite in protecting their future.



Nthabiseng's powerful message is a reminder that while the challenges of climate change are vast, they are not insurmountable. By improving our environmental practices, strengthening our disaster preparedness, and working together as a community, we can ensure that Lesotho remains a place where future generations can thrive. Her words inspire hope, action, and a commitment to building a more resilient future for all, where young people like Ramakhetheng and Nthabiseng can lead the way in safeguarding the environment and preparing for the challenges ahead. Together, we can make a lasting impact.

EMPOWERING FUTURE GENERATIONS FOR A DISASTER-RESILIENT FUTURE



World Vision Lesotho joined the Disaster Management Authority of Lesotho to commemorate the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction at Ha-Khoeli Primary School in Koro-Koro. This year's theme, "Empowering the Next Generation for a Resilient Future," underscores the importance of education in preparing children to face and recover from disasters. With the rising frequency and intensity of disasters, particularly those exacerbated by climate change, it is essential that young people are equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to protect themselves and their communities.

Through our ECHO-funded "Consolidating and Strengthening Disaster Risk Reduction Capacities in Lesotho" project, World Vision is working alongside key partners like the World Food Programme and Lesotho Red Cross Society to ensure that children are protected from the devastating impacts of disasters. This initiative focuses on equipping schools with the resources and knowledge to actively promote disaster awareness, ensuring that students are not only aware of the risks they face but also trained to respond effectively to emergencies. Our goal is to integrate disaster risk reduction into the school curriculum, enabling children to become champions of resilience in their communities.



Additionally, as part of our commitment to leaving no one behind, we are advocating for early warning systems to be made accessible to young people across Lesotho. These systems will allow children and communities to be better prepared for disasters, helping them take proactive measures before the worst occurs. By integrating children into disaster risk reduction efforts and ensuring they are empowered with the tools they need, we are building a more resilient future for the next generation.

WORLD VISION AND WFP ADVOCATE FOR THE RIGHT TO FOOD ON WORLD FOOD DAY 2024

Right to Food for a Better Life and a Better Future



Sometimes, children go to bed
Without Food

World Vision Southern Africa, in partnership with the World Food Programme (WFP), joined the global community in commemorating World Food Day under the theme, "Right to Food for a Better Life and a Better Future." This day served as a powerful reminder of the urgency to address food insecurity and malnutrition across the region, particularly in the wake of the devastating El Niño crisis that has impacted lives and livelihoods. Together, we amplified voices across Southern Africa, advocating for food as a fundamental human right and calling for transformative action to ensure that every person has access to nutritious, diverse, and sustainable food.



World Food Programme World Vision

“Crops are withering because of the drought. It is very hot and our crops are dying. We wake up not knowing where our next meal will come from, this situation is negatively impacting the lives of all Basotho”

Reithabetse, 13 | Lesotho

#Enough #ElNiño #ZeroHunger

#Enough #ElNiño #ZeroHunger

The 2024 World Food Day theme highlighted critical issues such as diversity, nutrition, affordability, accessibility, safety, and sustainability. In line with this, World Vision Southern Africa and WFP reflected on the need to make nutritious food available to all, especially the most vulnerable populations, including children and families affected by drought and food shortages. The El Niño-induced crisis has further underscored the fragility of food systems in the region, affecting millions and leaving many without access to basic sustenance. Our joint efforts seek not only to alleviate hunger but also to promote long-term solutions that empower communities and build resilience.

We Believe in the Right to Food

ZERO
Hunger



World Vision

Through this collaboration, we reaffirmed our commitment to fighting hunger and poverty, ensuring no one is left behind. From promoting sustainable agricultural practices to advocating for equitable access to resources, we are working toward a future where every individual can enjoy the right to food. As we marked this significant day, we stood united in our mission to create a world where food insecurity is a thing of the past, and every child has the opportunity to thrive.



WORLD VISION COMMEMORATES WORLD TOILET DAY: ADVOCATING FOR DIGNITY AND HEALTH FOR ALL

Toilets - A Place for Peace



Libbing Primary School, students celebrate World Toilet Day Holding placards with powerful messages, the children are spreading awareness about the importance of sanitation for their health and well-being.

World Vision Lesotho celebrated World Toilet Day in the Menoaneng Area Programme, Mokhotlong, under the theme “Toilets – A Place for Peace.” This day was an opportunity to highlight the crucial role that sanitation plays in ensuring dignity, health, and safety for communities. At World Vision Lesotho, we remain dedicated to improving access to safe and dignified sanitation, empowering communities to thrive. Since the start of our current strategy cycle (2021–2025), we have made significant strides, providing 195 schools with sanitation facilities and 19,358 people gaining access to improved sanitation through our WASH programme.

Sanitation is about more than just toilets; it's about creating healthy, safe environments where individuals, particularly children and vulnerable groups, can live with dignity. This year's World Toilet Day celebration was a reminder that everyone, regardless of gender, deserves access to sanitation that ensures privacy and safety. Leche, a 15-year-old student, shared his powerful perspective on the importance of toilets, emphasizing that they provide much-needed privacy and security for all children, both girls and boys. His words reflect the collective need for more efforts toward ensuring access to proper sanitation in every community.



As we continue to advocate for better sanitation for all, it is crucial to remember that access to toilets is a basic human right. Proper sanitation is essential for good health and well-being, helping to prevent the spread of diseases and providing a foundation for future development. World Vision Lesotho is committed to ensuring that every community, especially the most vulnerable, has access to safe, dignified sanitation. Let's keep working together to ensure a healthier, more sustainable future where everyone has access to these basic human rights. 🌊♿️

CHILDREN TAKE OVER ON WORLD CHILDRENS DAY

Listen to the Future. Stand Up for Children's Rights



Mr. James Chihwelu, World Vision Lesotho National Director and Mr. Deepak Bhaskaran, UNICEF Lesotho Country Director celebrating with the children at the commemoration of World Children's Day

World Vision Lesotho, in partnership with UNICEF Lesotho, joined the global community in commemorating World Children's Day through the empowering event **Children Take Over** at Phelisanong Centre for Disabled. The theme for this year, "Listen to the Future. Stand Up for Children's Rights," emphasized the importance of actively listening to the voices of children and taking action to protect and promote their rights. This event gave children the opportunity to step into leadership roles, allowing them to share their ideas and perspectives on crucial issues such as children's rights, inclusive education, health, and child protection. Their participation not only highlighted their concerns but also showcased their potential to influence positive change in society.



Investing in us children, means investing in the future

LERATO, 11 YEARS

At Phelisanong Centre for Disabled, children with diverse abilities led the way in the conversation about inclusive education and child protection. Through speeches, discussions, and activities, these young leaders expressed their views on the importance of creating inclusive spaces where every child, regardless of their abilities, has access to quality education, health services, and protection from harm. They spoke about the challenges they face and offered insightful solutions, reminding the adults in the room that their voices matter.

These young advocates called for more accessible and supportive learning environments, greater investment in mental health, and stronger efforts to eliminate discrimination and violence against children. The event underscored the message that the rights of children must be respected, upheld, and defended, with all sectors of society playing a role in this mission.



The event was a powerful reminder that children, especially those with disabilities, are not merely the future—they are already active contributors to society. Their voices, ideas, and leadership are shaping the direction of the world, particularly in the areas that directly affect them. World Vision Lesotho and UNICEF Lesotho are committed to ensuring that children's voices are heard and that their rights are protected in every sphere of life. As we celebrate World Children's Day, the question remains: are we listening to the future? The children who took part in this event have shown us that they are ready to lead, advocate, and take action. It is now up to us to support them and provide the spaces they need to thrive, ensuring that their rights are respected and that they can contribute meaningfully to a brighter, more inclusive world.

WORLD VISION LESOTHO PARTNERS WITH EU AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES FOR 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

Break the Silence. End the Violence.



World Vision Lesotho, in collaboration with our partners, joined the vibrant community of Ha Mohlakoana at Bolula Primary School in Quthing district to stand united against abuse under the theme: Unite to end violence against women and children.

From November 25 to December 10, 2024, World Vision Lesotho, in partnership with the European Union in Lesotho and other partners, joined the #16DaysOfActivism campaign to raise awareness and advocate for the elimination of gender-based violence (GBV). This global campaign highlights the urgent need to address the violence and abuse that disproportionately affects women and children. Gender-based violence is not just a violation of human rights—it is a significant barrier to achieving gender equality and building a just, sustainable society. Empowering women and girls is critical for creating a future where everyone can live free from fear, violence, and discrimination.

As part of the campaign, World Vision Lesotho collaborated with the community of Ha Mohlakoana in Quthing district, holding a vibrant and informative event at Bolula Primary School. The community united under the theme "Unite to End Violence Against Women and Children" to discuss and raise awareness about critical issues affecting women and children in the area. These issues included domestic violence, gender-based violence, child marriage, child labor, and other harmful practices that contribute to the suffering of women and children. The event was an opportunity to educate the community about the prevalence of these issues and the importance of taking collective action to protect women and children from abuse.



Gender inequality perpetuates violence

Gender-based violence is a key driver of gender inequality. Empowering women and girls, and ensuring their participation in all aspects of life, is essential for building a just and sustainable society.



In addition to raising awareness, the event also provided valuable information about the laws that protect the rights of women and children, emphasizing how individuals can report abuse and take action if they witness violence or exploitation. Through these efforts, World Vision Lesotho and its partners are working to build a safer, stronger future for all, where women and children can live free from violence and have the opportunity to thrive. Together, we are making strides toward ending gender-based violence and creating communities where everyone is treated with dignity and respect.



Funded by
European Union
Humanitarian Aid



PROVIDING LIFESAVING SUPPORT TO VULNERABLE FAMILIES AMIDST LESOTHO'S FOOD CRISIS

In response to the alarming food insecurity crisis in Lesotho, World Vision Lesotho, through the EU Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid-funded project 'Consolidating and Strengthening Disaster Risk Reduction Capacities in Lesotho,' launched a food distribution initiative in Mphahlele. This effort is part of the broader El Niño response aimed at alleviating the devastating impacts of prolonged drought and food shortages on the most vulnerable populations. Lifesaving food packages were distributed to 45 households, offering much-needed relief to families struggling to cope with the ongoing crisis.

Lesotho faces one of its most severe food crises, with over 403,000 people—27% of the population—at risk of acute food insecurity in the coming months. The situation, exacerbated by the El Niño phenomenon, has left many families without access to basic necessities, threatening the health and well-being of children and their communities. Through this project, we are not only addressing immediate food needs but also strengthening disaster risk reduction capacities to enhance resilience and preparedness for future crises.

This initiative underscores World Vision Lesotho's commitment to standing with the most vulnerable during times of crisis. By partnering with the EU and other stakeholders like the Disaster Management Authority (DMA), we are bringing hope and tangible support to families in need, ensuring that no one is left behind. As we move forward, we remain dedicated to scaling up our efforts, raising awareness, and mobilizing resources to tackle this crisis head-on, advocating for long-term solutions to build resilient and thriving communities.



WORLD VISION LESOTHO RESPONDS TO EL NIÑO DROUGHT WITH EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE PROJECT



The devastating El Niño drought has left 700,000 Basotho facing severe food insecurity, threatening their livelihoods and well-being. In response to this crisis, World Vision Lesotho, in partnership with USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance, launched the Emergency Food Assistance Project – Lesotho (EFAP-L). This vital initiative aims to provide immediate relief to those most affected by the drought, helping families survive and rebuild in the face of a humanitarian emergency. The project focuses on delivering essential aid to food-insecure communities across Lesotho, with a special emphasis on restoring hope, dignity, and resilience to vulnerable households.

The first distribution took place in Matelile, where 343 food-insecure households received cash assistance to help them meet their urgent food needs. This support is helping families access nutritious meals, ensuring that children, the elderly, and other vulnerable groups are protected from the worst impacts of hunger. With a total of 2,595 households across three districts set to benefit from this initiative, EFAP-L is making a significant difference in the lives of many who are struggling to cope with the ongoing crisis. By providing cash assistance, the project enables households to purchase food based on their individual needs, giving them the flexibility to make decisions about their own survival and recovery. This humanitarian response is not just about providing short-term relief, but also about building long-term resilience in affected communities.



By restoring hope and dignity through immediate support, World Vision Lesotho is helping families lay the foundation for future recovery and stability. With ongoing support from USAID, the EFAP-L project is committed to helping vulnerable communities overcome the challenges posed by the drought and other climate-related crises. Together, we are ensuring that no one is left behind in the fight against hunger and food insecurity. [Read the full story](#) and see how EFAP-L is making an impact.



EMPOWERING MEDIA TO CHAMPION HUMAN RIGHTS



Through our EU-funded projects, the Accelerating Action for Eliminating Child Labour and Forced Labour (AECFL) and the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights Project, we conducted a comprehensive Media Engagement and Training Workshop aimed at equipping local media professionals with the tools and knowledge to drive transformative change. This initiative underscored the crucial role of the media in advocating for human rights, amplifying marginalized voices, and shaping public perceptions on pressing issues affecting vulnerable populations in Lesotho.



The workshop brought together 12 editors from prominent media houses, engaging them on their pivotal role in influencing public discourse and policy advocacy. Discussions focused on the media's power to elevate issues such as child trafficking, trafficking in persons, and the rights of people with disabilities. By fostering a deeper understanding of these issues, the workshop aimed to inspire editors to prioritize human rights stories in their reporting, ensuring these critical topics receive the attention they deserve.



Additionally, 43 journalists received specialized training on ethical reporting practices, emphasizing their responsibility as advocates for change. Topics included accurate reporting on human trafficking, child labor, and disability rights, as well as the importance of portraying survivors with dignity and respect. Participants explored practical strategies for investigative journalism, building narratives that educate the public and hold duty bearers accountable. This training reaffirmed our commitment to partnering with the media as catalysts for awareness, advocacy, and action, ensuring a more just and equitable society for all.



Funded by
the European Union

World Vision

WORLD VISION SOUTHERN AFRICA WASH FORUM: CHARTING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE



In 2024, World Vision's WASH interventions positively impacted over 2 million lives, providing access to clean water, sanitation, and hygiene. These life-changing efforts span schools, healthcare facilities, and entire communities. Over the past five years, our unwavering commitment has driven remarkable progress across Southern Africa, transforming millions of lives. From the installation of water taps to the construction of latrines and hygiene education campaigns, World Vision has delivered innovative, sustainable solutions that address the root causes of water scarcity and poor sanitation, empowering families to lead healthier lives.

From October 22nd to 25th, World Vision Lesotho proudly hosted the Southern Africa WASH Forum, uniting participants from over seven African nations, as well as representatives from World Vision's Support Office and Global Centre. This pivotal gathering aimed to reflect on achievements, share innovative approaches, and strategize for the future of Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) across the region. The forum served as a powerful platform to align on World Vision's continued mission to end water insecurity, improve sanitation, and promote hygiene for the most vulnerable populations, contributing to Sustainable Development Goal 6.



The forum highlighted key pillars of our WASH programming: expanding access to essential services, prioritizing the most vulnerable in fragile settings, and delivering sustainable, long-lasting impact. Through partnerships and collective action, we are building resilient communities where every child can thrive in dignity. As we continue to push boundaries in tackling water insecurity, this forum reaffirmed the power of collaboration to achieve a future where clean water, safe sanitation, and good hygiene are accessible to all. Together, we remain steadfast in ensuring that no one is left behind in the journey toward a healthier, more equitable Southern Africa.

ADVANCING WATER SUSTAINABILITY AT THE 25TH WATERNET/WARFSA/GWP-SA SYMPOSIUM



World Vision proudly participated in the 25th WaterNet/WARFSA/GWP-SA Symposium, held in Lesotho, uniting experts and stakeholders from over 26 countries across Eastern and Southern Africa. The symposium served as a platform to address critical water resource management challenges and develop sustainable solutions for the region. With this year's theme, "Enhancing Sustainability: Upscaling Innovations for Integrated Catchment and Water Resources Management (ICWRM)," participants explored innovative approaches to ensure equitable and sustainable access to water, aligning with the global commitment to Sustainable Development Goal 6.

Representing World Vision, Dr. Fungai Makoni, Senior Director of WASH Global Operations, delivered a compelling keynote address emphasizing the need to translate vision into actionable impact. Dr. Makoni highlighted World Vision's innovative and inclusive WASH practices that prioritize the most vulnerable communities, particularly in fragile and water-scarce regions. He underscored the transformative power of partnerships, technology, and community engagement in driving sustainable change, inspiring attendees to adopt integrated strategies that tackle water security challenges holistically.



Through active participation in the symposium, World Vision reaffirmed its leadership in advancing sustainable water solutions. Our collaborative efforts with regional partners are focused on empowering communities, protecting water catchments, and ensuring the long-term availability of clean, safe water for all. By sharing expertise and fostering dialogue, World Vision continues to advocate for a future where access to water is a fundamental right, fueling growth, health, and resilience across Africa.

[Read full remarks](#)





Gender Equality & Women Empowerment Project Launch

On the 1st of November 2024, World Vision Lesotho proudly launched the Gender Equality and Women Empowerment (GEWE) Project, funded under the Sustainable Agriculture Development Programme II (SADP II). This groundbreaking initiative marks a significant step toward creating a more equitable and inclusive society. The project focuses on uplifting women and youth by providing them with opportunities to lead, innovate, and thrive in their communities. By addressing gender disparities and fostering inclusion, the GEWE Project aims to create sustainable solutions that empower vulnerable populations and contribute to long-term resilience.

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

The **GEWE Project** emphasizes economic empowerment, leadership development, and agricultural innovation tailored to the needs of women and youth. Through training, access to resources, and gender-sensitive practices, the project seeks to enable participants to take charge of their futures. By supporting income-generating activities and fostering entrepreneurship, the initiative is designed to break cycles of poverty and dependency, offering women and young people the tools they need to build prosperous lives for themselves and their families.

EMPOWERING WOMEN AND YOUTH THROUGH THE GEWE PROJECT

At its core, the GEWE Project is about transforming communities through partnership and collaboration. By working closely with stakeholders, local governments, and community members, the initiative ensures its strategies are inclusive and sustainable. Together, we're fostering an environment where women and youth are recognized as key agents of change, capable of leading their communities toward a brighter future. With this project, World Vision Lesotho reaffirms its commitment to creating a world where equality and opportunity are within reach for everyone.



Knowledge Matters
Empowering young women

"As a young person I am more able to make a living, raising children that I hope I can send to university. I realized that many young people aren't getting involved in community development activities, so I'm encouraging all young people to get involved. These programs help build a better future for our communities."



Women Drive Change
Empowering women

"Women are the backbone of families. When a woman is empowered, she can provide for her family and her children. I'm encouraging all women to get involved in community development programs and earn a living for their families. Thanks to SADP II and World Vision, I now have training skills that help me provide for my family."

WORLD VISION LESOTHO PARTNERS WITH MASERU UNITED CHURCH TO SUPPORT VULNERABLE CHILDREN



The partnership agreement signed on this day focuses on addressing the specific needs of herd boys, a group often overlooked in society. These boys face numerous challenges, including limited access to education, inadequate healthcare, and isolation from essential community resources. By working together with Maseru United Church, we aim to provide a holistic approach that supports the spiritual, physical, emotional, and educational well-being of these children. Our efforts will include educational support, health initiatives, and opportunities for spiritual growth, ensuring a brighter and more promising future for these young people.

At World Vision Lesotho, we believe in the power of Faith and Development to drive positive change in the communities we serve. On November 2024, we continued to strengthen our partnerships with faith leaders to amplify our efforts in transforming the lives of vulnerable children across Lesotho. Led by National Director James Chifwelu, World Vision Lesotho joined hands with Maseru United Church, under the leadership of Pastor Peter Simwanza, to create a lasting impact on the lives of the most vulnerable boys and girls, particularly those living in rural and underserved areas.



This partnership is a testament to the powerful role that faith communities can play in addressing the needs of vulnerable children. By combining our expertise in child protection and community development with the Church's spiritual leadership and reach, we can make a deeper impact in the lives of those who need it most. World Vision Lesotho is committed to working hand-in-hand with local faith organizations like Maseru United Church to ensure that no child is left behind, and together, we will continue to bring hope, healing, and opportunities for vulnerable children in Lesotho.



PROMOTING INCLUSIVITY AND ACCESSIBILITY FOR ALL: PPHR PROJECT ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS



One of the key outcomes of the discussions was the identification of significant barriers to accessibility in these essential services. These barriers range from physical infrastructure challenges—such as inadequate ramps or poorly designed public spaces—to attitudinal barriers where societal attitudes towards disabilities prevent meaningful inclusion. The stakeholders explored innovative solutions that could address these challenges, such as the adoption of universal design principles for public spaces, accessible technology for education, and inclusive hiring practices in the workplace. These solutions aim to ensure that persons with disabilities are not just accommodated, but fully integrated into society with equal opportunities for education, employment, and healthcare.

The Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (PPHR) Project, funded by the European Union, recently hosted a series of roundtable discussions aimed at advocating for disability-friendly spaces in our communities. These sessions brought together key stakeholders from various sectors, including government officials, NGOs, community leaders, and disability advocates, to collectively address the critical issue of accessibility for persons with disabilities. The conversations centered on how to eliminate barriers that hinder the full participation of individuals with disabilities in all aspects of life, including healthcare, education, employment, and law enforcement.



The roundtable discussions also focused on strengthening partnerships for sustainable impact, recognizing that the promotion of disability rights requires a collaborative effort between government bodies, civil society, and private sector actors. By building stronger networks and alliances, we can create lasting change that results in more inclusive policies and services. Together, we are working towards a society where accessibility is not just a legal obligation, but a fundamental right for everyone, regardless of their abilities. As we continue these efforts, we are one step closer to building a world where everyone belongs and can participate fully in all aspects of life.



ENSURING EDUCATION IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY: MOBILIZING RESOURCES FOR DISASTER-RESILIENT SCHOOLS



The campaign focused on collaborative efforts with the Ministry of Education & Training, the Disaster Management Authority, and other partners to improve the physical infrastructure of schools in vulnerable areas. As these areas are often hit by disasters such as flash floods and landslides, many schools have poor infrastructure, making it difficult for students to continue their education when extreme weather hits. Thanks to the support of the stakeholders, crucial resources were mobilized, including building blocks, cement, and window frames, to repair and improve school facilities, ensuring they can withstand future natural disasters and continue to provide safe spaces for children to learn.

On 3rd December 2024, World Vision Lesotho, as part of the Consolidating and Strengthening Disaster Risk Reduction (CSDRR) project funded by ECHO, hosted a Resource Mobilization Campaign to address the ongoing challenge of access to education in disaster-prone areas. The event brought together stakeholders who discussed the critical barriers children face in accessing education due to natural disasters, including flooding, drought, and severe weather conditions that disrupt both infrastructure and learning. The children present at the event highlighted that their right to a safe, uninterrupted education should never be compromised, even when disasters strike.



The event underscored the urgent need for disaster-resilient education systems and demonstrated that by working together, communities can overcome the challenges posed by disasters. Access to education should be a right, not a privilege, and this campaign reaffirmed that no child should be deprived of learning opportunities due to climate-related events. The mobilization of resources is a step forward in creating resilient schools that can sustain education in the face of adversity, ensuring that children can continue their studies even in the toughest conditions. With continued support from partners and communities, we are laying the groundwork for a future where every child has the opportunity to learn, grow, and succeed, no matter the challenges ahead.



EMPOWERING FAMILIES WITH CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE

Faith Partnerships on Environmental Sustainability and Climate Action (ESCA) Project

EL NINO CRISIS

In the face of ongoing drought caused by El Niño, food security remains a pressing challenge for families in Lesotho, with children being among the most vulnerable. To address this, World Vision Lesotho, through the Faith Partnerships on Environmental Sustainability and Climate Action (ESCA) Project, is equipping communities with the tools and skills needed to build resilience against climate challenges. The project emphasizes climate-smart agriculture as a pathway to sustainable food security, enabling families to overcome the difficulties of farming in harsh and unpredictable conditions.



RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

These gardens not only provide nutritious food for their households but also offer a potential source of income, contributing to the overall well-being of the community.

The impact of the ESCA Project goes beyond food security—it fosters hope and a sense of self-reliance. By equipping families with practical knowledge and resources, World Vision Lesotho is helping communities take control of their futures, even in the face of climate adversity. These efforts reflect the organization's commitment to building resilient, sustainable communities where every child has the opportunity to thrive, and no family has to face hunger alone.

SUSTAINABLE FARMING

In the remote district of Mokhotlong, families in Ha Senkoase have been empowered with sustainable farming techniques that allow them to grow crops throughout the year. These techniques include water-efficient irrigation methods, soil conservation practices, and crop diversification strategies to ensure a steady food supply. To kickstart their journey toward food security, families were also provided with high-quality seeds, enabling them to establish their own vegetable gardens.





Regreening Communities for a Sustainable Future: World Vision Lesotho and Partners Unite for Environmental Action

On a mission to combat climate change and restore the environment to create a thriving environment for children and the future generations to come, World Vision Lesotho partnered with the Pitseng communities, faith and community leaders, and the Ministry of Environment and Forestry for a successful tree planting initiative under the **Regreening Communities model**. Together, we planted **1,000** indigenous trees to help address pressing environmental challenges like soil erosion and land degradation. These trees are not just a symbol of hope but also play a vital role in improving soil stability and promoting long-term **environmental sustainability** in vulnerable areas.

This initiative is a key part of the Faith Partnerships for Environmental Stewardship and Climate Action (ESCA) project, which empowers local communities to take proactive steps to care for the planet. As climate change continues to expose lands to increasing degradation, communities in Lesotho are stepping up to reverse the damage. By planting indigenous trees, the communities are not only improving the local ecosystem but also building resilience against future environmental impacts, ensuring that their land remains fertile and sustainable for generations to come.



Our collective efforts are grounded in the Christian faith, which calls on us to be stewards of God's creation. This initiative reflects our shared responsibility to care for the environment and nurture the earth that sustains us. As we continue to protect and restore our natural surroundings, we reaffirm our commitment to environmental stewardship and climate action. Let's all work together to ensure a healthier, greener planet for future generations.



EQUIPPING FRONTLINE WORKERS TO PROTECT AND EMPOWER CHILDREN

Building safe and secure livelihoods is at the heart of World Vision Lesotho's mission, achieved through our Community Engagement and Sponsorship Plan (CESP) programme. A cornerstone of this initiative is ensuring the protection of boys and girls from abuse, neglect, exploitation, and other forms of violence. We recognize that this mission begins with empowering our frontline staff with the skills, passion, and drive to fulfill their calling effectively.

This quarter, the CESP programme conducted a comprehensive workshop for child sponsorship and child participation teams. The workshop focused on equipping staff with advanced tools and techniques to enhance child sponsorship processes and improve outcomes for children and their communities. By refining these processes, we aim to strengthen our ability to engage with communities meaningfully and ensure that every sponsored child feels supported and valued.



The training emphasized the importance of holistic child protection, addressing both immediate risks and the systemic factors that perpetuate cycles of poverty and vulnerability. It also highlighted the critical role of community engagement in fostering a nurturing environment where children can thrive.

By working hand-in-hand with communities, we address the root causes of poverty and vulnerability. Together, we ensure that every child has the opportunity to grow into who God created them to be—a testimony to the transformative power of partnership, dedication, and faith.

Through this workshop, World Vision Lesotho reaffirms its commitment to strengthening the capacity of its teams and delivering on its promise to protect and empower the most vulnerable children in Lesotho.

WORLD VISION LESOTHO HOSTS EMPLOYEE WELLNESS DAY TO HONOR STAFF WELL-BEING

#WeValuePeople



At World Vision Lesotho, one of our core values is "We Value People," a principle that extends beyond the communities we serve to our dedicated staff members who work tirelessly to transform lives across the country. On November 28th, 2024, we celebrated our Employee Wellness Day, a special occasion dedicated to honoring the holistic well-being of our staff. This day focused on ensuring that our employees receive the support they need to thrive mentally, emotionally, physically, financially, and spiritually, reinforcing our commitment to creating a healthy and empowering work environment.



The Employee Wellness Day was designed to offer a range of activities and resources to support staff in all aspects of their well-being. We organized workshops, wellness talks, and interactive sessions with professional counselors, fitness instructors, and financial advisors, allowing our staff to engage in activities that nurtured their overall health. These initiatives were aimed at reducing stress, promoting healthy lifestyles, and providing essential tools for balancing work and personal life, which are crucial for maintaining long-term productivity and fulfillment.

As part of our dedication to the well-being of our team, we understand that a happy and healthy workforce is essential for carrying out our mission to create lasting change in the communities we serve. By investing in our employees' physical and emotional health, we ensure they are equipped to give their best in their roles, ultimately helping World Vision Lesotho achieve its goal of transforming the lives of children and families. This Employee Wellness Day was not just a celebration, but a reminder of our ongoing commitment to the people who make our work possible.





Together We Are Changing Lives

At World Vision Lesotho, every story, every initiative, and every partnership is a step toward transforming lives and building resilient communities. From advocating for children's rights to combatting hunger, promoting education, and restoring our environment, we are united in creating a brighter future for all.

Want to Make a Difference

Follow Us on social media for the latest updates.
Partner With Us to amplify our impact.
Join Us in shaping a better tomorrow

Together, we can ensure every child has a life filled with hope, dignity, and opportunity.

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