

# WORLD VISION GEORGIA

BRINGING HOPE  
TRANSFORMING LIVES



World Vision (WV), as one of the leading children’s rights non-governmental organisations in Georgia, has a **vision to build a world where each child experiences life in all its fullness**. Our holistic development approach focuses on children and strives to enable their families, local communities and partners to address the underlying causes of poverty.

In 2022, World Vision Georgia (WVG), together with its partners, contributed directly to the increased well-being of children through direct service provision, institutional and community capacity building, awareness raising, and advocacy campaigns.

More than 19,000 children in Georgia have been directly reached and supported by us. Thanks to our extensive 30-year history, serving Georgia’s most vulnerable through transformational development and long-term commitment to communities, we have an established presence, extensive networks, and meaningful relationships with civil societies and local governments within vulnerable communities.

We work in development, however, when a humanitarian disaster occurs, our teams on site are well-placed to launch a Response programme. In 2022, we carried out both Development and Emergency Response programmes.



## WVG’s Development Work

### CHILD PROTECTION AND WELFARE

**Our mission** is to empower the most vulnerable children and their families, through the provision of direct services, strengthening the quality of Social Work at the local and national levels, and by driving sustainable advocacy efforts for improving policies and practices with respect to prevention, protection and rehabilitation.

We implemented community-driven local level child welfare initiatives through the World Vision Child Protection and Advocacy (CP&A) model which entails establishing interagency child protection groups to strengthen the initiatives in four basic components of the child protection system: 1) Building community awareness and consciousness; 2) Strengthening the referral system; 3) Empowering vulnerable families with children; 4) Increasing children’s resilience.

**Overall, in Georgia, eight child protection and advocacy groups identify community needs and advocate for making significant changes in the lives of vulnerable children.**

#### Key Highlights:

- **Deinstitutionalization** of residential institutions for children deprived of parental care - we supported the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia to deinstitutionalize three children’s institutions within the ongoing child protection and care system reform. Additionally, as per the request of the Ministry of Education and Science, we developed the childcare standards for boarding schools and handed these to the ministry for further application.
- **Strengthening childcare services** through capacity building of social workers and foster parents – we provided specialized foster parent training to 448 foster parents, and trained 335 social workers of the State Care Agency (311 women, 24 men), in social work case management. All the training modules were approved by the Government.



- We supported the strengthening of up to 100 families to achieve **sustainable livelihoods and socioeconomic resilience** within the Ultra Poor Graduation programme.

- **Implementation of the Code on the Rights of the Child in Georgia** – the adoption of the code was a ground-breaking achievement for the country. We are supporting the government to operationalise the policy effectively and efficiently through capacity building and developing standards.

**ABOUT 2,000 CHILDREN ARE FIGHTING FOR SURVIVAL IN THE STREETS OF LARGE CITIES IN GEORGIA**



- In 2022, we provided **direct support to the Parliament of Georgia** in monitoring **the implementation of the Code on the Rights of the Child** and **evaluating Child Protection and Care systems in the country**. The performance indicators for deinstitutionalization process monitoring were developed and handed over to the Child Rights Council of the Parliament of Georgia. At the local level, with a view to increase the municipal capacity for social work rollout, we trained 349 employees of the social departments of the municipalities (294 women and 55 men).



- We supported the development of an action plan and its inclusion in the regulatory framework to **reinforce the nationwide deinstitutionalization process in the country**, leading to enhanced control of childcare services and improved state policy in Georgia.
- **Evidence-based and well-tested models are the primary tools** for direct work with target communities. Overall, more than 150 most vulnerable families were engaged and served through **Family Support Services, Home visiting, Celebrating Families, and the Peace Road and Go Baby Go** models to strengthen families' resilience, support positive parenting, and ensure social inclusion and cohesion. Additionally, up to 100 vulnerable families were included in the poverty alleviation programme to prevent children from being separated from their families.
- We provided **daily support to about 100 street-connected children** in Tbilisi and Kutaisi, through the day care and night shelters. Additionally, we piloted a 24/7 emergency outreach programme for children in cooperation with the Agency of State Care and Assistance to Victims of Trafficking under the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons, Health, Labour and Social Affairs. World Vision's Day Care Centre for socially vulnerable infants and toddlers enables single mothers to work and support their families.
- Within the framework of the Early Childhood Development Programme, **we helped 80 preschool institutions** in three target regions of Kakheti, Imereti, and Samtskhe-Javakheti **to arrange and equip outdoor spaces** to help children explore their natural environment and the world around them.
- To enhance **equal access to quality preschool education**, we constructed a kindergarten in the village of Zanavi, Adigeni Municipality, together with the Embassy of Japan and the local municipality. It currently serves 150 children.
- In the post-COVID reality, **we prioritized internet safety** to help children and their parents stay safe (and protect others) in the digital world. **Three guidebooks** on safe use of the internet were prepared for children, parents and adults.



## KEY resources developed in 2022:

[Day Care Centers for Street Connected Children](#)

[We love having a conversation about what people believe makes their community unique and special – opening of a new preschool in Rokhi village, Imereti](#)

[The importance of arranging outdoor spaces at preschool institutions](#)

[Foster Care Video](#)



## YOUTH EMPOWERMENT



**EMPOWER AND  
ENGAGE YOUTH  
TO CREATE  
POSITIVE CHANGE**

Youth unemployment is exceptionally high in Georgia, and social activism among youth is low. 34.7 % of young boys and girls in Georgia are NEET (not in employment, education or training). We see youth as agents of positive change, thus prioritise their engagement and empowerment.

Through Youth Clubs, WVG equipped 1,000 youth with life and technical skills, entrepreneurial business development techniques and innovative approaches that bring social change to the community. **SKYE Club (Skills and Knowledge for Youth Economic Opportunities) has four learning pillars: Active citizenship, employability, social entrepreneurship, and leadership**, customised to support the 15 to 29 age groups in professional and self-development. In 2022, World Vision Georgia supported SKYE clubs in 5 municipalities.

We believe that Youth Councils are an effective mechanism to promote youth participation and engagement in the local decision-making process, being a core element for building a sustainable Youth Ecosystem at the municipal level. We are actively involved in creating Youth Councils in the regions, in partnership with local municipalities, building the capacity of youth, strengthening them, and providing technical expertise. Currently, 7 Youth Councils, uniting more than 150 qualified youth, are already functional, giving them the opportunity to address essential needs and be the voice of youth in their community. With WVG support, young boys and girls were able to participate in exchange programs and study visits in Germany and Denmark.

# SUPPORTING REFUGEES, ASYLUM SEEKERS AND STATELESS PERSONS IN GEORGIA

WVG, in partnership with the UN Refugee Agency in Georgia (UNHCR), is providing support to refugees from different countries who had to leave their homeland and find a new place to live. Our joint project contributes to the **realisation of the fundamental rights of refugees and other persons of concern (PoCs) in Georgia.**



We provide useful information about relevant services in Georgia and possibilities for education and employment, help them to set up their lives in a society that is new to them, and hold a wide range of trainings, with the final aim to enhance their integration into local society.

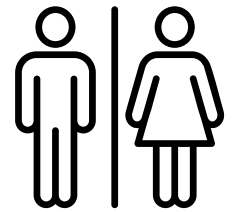
## Our achievements :

- A well-structured CGFs network aimed at **strengthening community-based protection**, providing day-to-day support to asylum-seekers, persons granted international protection and stateless persons in Georgia, in view of their self-reliance, as well as making a contribution to their peaceful coexistence with the local population and contributing to their local integration.
- In 2022, in total, 1808 PoCs were supported directly through **empowerment, integration and social protection** services.
- **4 Youth Clubs** were established in Tbilisi, Kutaisi and Batumi and were supported to promote **refugee youth integration** in host communities.
- **Integrated Youth Clubs** organized 62 meetings and three municipal youth forums to **raise awareness and advocate** for PoC youth rights in Tbilisi, Kutaisi and Batumi. Additionally, youth implemented eight community projects.

**REFUGEES ARE ASSETS TO THEIR HOST COUNTRIES**

## GENDER EQUALITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION (GESI)

**Gender Equality and Social Inclusion** is integral to achieving global sustainable development goals, World Vision's "Our Promise" strategy, and child well-being objectives. GESI advances our core values to promote human transformation by reaching the most vulnerable children and adults and challenging the root causes of vulnerability that sustain gender inequality and social exclusion, such as restrictive socio-cultural norms, unequal power relations and disempowering systems.



In 2022, to combat gender-based violence against girls, boys, and women in the rural areas of Georgia, we worked with schools and preschools within the frames of the project supported by the Government of Canada - Canadian Fund for Local Initiatives.

## KEY Achievements:

- We reached directly more than **1000 teachers, parents and educators** within the frames of the project.
- We finalized the study on the root causes of **Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in schools and preschools** in Georgia.
- Based on the aforementioned study, we developed **two guidebooks for preschool and school** practitioners as a practical tool for staff to integrate gender-responsive practices into their work.
- We conducted training sessions **introducing gender-responsive pedagogical practices** for 500 educational practitioners, teachers, and caregivers in target regions.

**EMPOWERED WOMEN  
EMPOWERED CHILDREN**

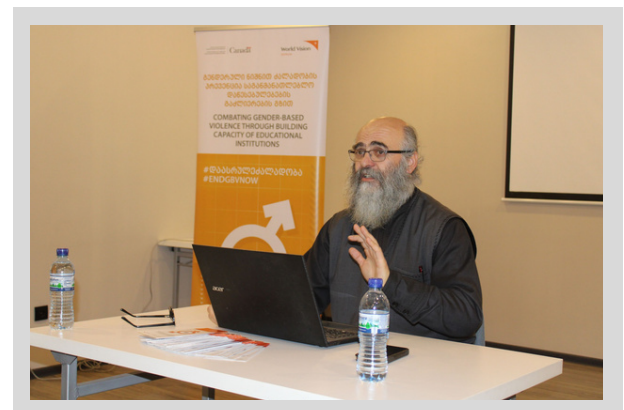
## Important resources developed in 2022:



**Guidebook for preschool practitioners**



**Guidebook for school personnel**



**Watch the video**



To support the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence Campaign, Archimandrite Makari from the Bagdati Municipality, promotes gender equality in his speech



Children with special needs in Georgia are still struggling to be an integral part of society. We aim to enhance the access of children with special needs to quality education. For that purpose:

To support children with multiple disabilities, World Vision Georgia organised **summer camps for deaf children**, their family members, and teachers promoting sign language, improving their communication and life skills and supporting their transition process from kindergarten to school.

We opened and equipped a **multi-sensory room** in the premises of Tbilisi Public School No.200 together with the Ministry of Education and Science. This is a controlled and intentionally created space that provides multi-sensory resources to support students' sensory needs, and enabling them to engage in learning. We also trained a group of teachers, educators, psychologists and social therapists on how to utilise the elements of sensory integration in educational spaces.

**To promote literacy among visually impaired children** and strengthen the capacities of specialised schools, we translated books into braille and donated them to our partner school for visually impaired and blind children, so that children with vision loss have the same access to the written word as other children and can enjoy reading for life. The braille books were printed and distributed to those specialised schools as well as to reading clubs that were organised.

**EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR EMPOWERMENT AND SELF REALISATION**

**More than 100 children were directly supported through disability inclusion initiatives in 2022, with the support of WV United States.**



**Watch the videos**

**What Do Children Dream About?**

- Nikita, a 9-year-old refugee from Ukraine
- Devi, a young boy planning to study abroad
- Amina, 7-year-old girl from Tbilisi
- Mariam, a young leader striving for personal development

# WVG'S EMERGENCY RESPONSE

## COVID-19 RESPONSE IN GEORGIA

On 11 March 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic. Within hours, World Vision launched one of the largest global emergency responses. In 2022, our main focus was to **raise awareness on the importance of COVID-19 immunization** among school and preschool personnel, together with the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC). In total, we reached 3226 people with our awareness raising campaign. Additionally, we engaged faith leaders in promoting vaccination in rural areas, as they are key players in changing behaviours.

We also produced age-appropriate videos and brochures promoting hygiene and a healthy lifestyle among children and supported the street-connected children affected by COVID-19 by equipping them with sanitary and hygienic items, and by providing enhanced holistic psychosocial support (psychologist, social worker, caregiver and art therapist) in order to reduce COVID-19 related stress. **More than 500 children and adults directly benefited from COVID-19 prevention initiatives in 2022.**

**THE COVID-19  
AFTERSHOCKS  
ARE ONLY  
BEGINNING  
TO BE SEEN**

## UKRAINE CRISIS RESPONSE IN GEORGIA

World Vision Georgia has been providing support and assistance to the people of Ukraine from the very first days of the crisis, and we continue to support Ukrainian refugees, based on their needs, through urgent relief, assistance, education, protection and cash programming implemented in the capital city and three other regions of Georgia.

We have already reached directly more than **12,000** people, focusing on our **4 main pillars**:

- **CHILD-FOCUSED** - We remain focused on the well-being of children. We are here to serve children.
- **WINTERIZATION** - To ensure people have warm, safe, and dignified living conditions, we coordinate with partners in supporting and implementing programs that help people survive the winter season.
- **CASH ASSISTANCE** - Cash is a more effective way of delivering assistance to those who need it, both empowering people and markets.
- **PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT** - Children (and their parents) affected by the war are at risk of long-term mental health problems. We deliver mental and psychosocial support to help them cope and recover from the shocks and effects of the crisis.

Additionally, we prioritize education and support schools to provide quality education to Ukrainian children.

### Ukraine Response in Numbers:

- 6,577 reached with cash and voucher programmes (3391 children among them)
- 1,230 children received winterization vouchers (300 GEL) for winter clothes
- 1,358 children benefited from educational programmes
- Educational kits were distributed to 550 Ukrainian children
- Tree educational institutions were equipped with educational materials and technology
- 1158 citizens of Ukraine benefited from mental health and psychosocial activities
- More than 600 children were involved in regular mythodrama, music and dance synthetic sessions
- More than 1000 people were referred to social, medical, psychosocial and protection state services
- 200 women attended informational sessions on Gender-Based Violence and available state services in the country
- About 700 people were provided with livelihood/employment support services



**BRINGING HOPE TO  
UKRAINIAN CHILDREN AND  
FAMILIES TO OVERCOME  
THE EFFECTS OF THE WAR**



### One-year report:

[World Vision Ukraine Crisis Response  
One Year On Report | Ukraine |  
World Vision International \(wvi.org\)](#)



# INNOVATIONS IN 2022

## TRANSFORMING LEARNING WITH NEW TECHNOLOGIES

- WVG developed the **first Georgian guidebook on technology enriched teaching** to enhance the teaching-learning process with modern technologies and methods. This initiative was followed by the extensive capacity building of public schools.
- To raise awareness about **positive parenting** and using non-violent methods, **free online courses were created** through a joint initiative of WVG and a local partner "Parents for Education". More than 2000 parents registered and took the course via: [www.mshobeltaskola.ge](http://www.mshobeltaskola.ge)
- **Cartoon animated social story Bibi and Lolo** – our bunnies, Bibi and Lolo, tell children between the ages of 2-8, in an age-appropriate manner, about the hazards of and ways to handle stressful situations and vulnerabilities, helping them acquire essential information, behaviours, and adaptive skills through leveraging psychology, technology, and story-telling.



**7 episodes are currently available on our YOUTUBE channel.**

**Topics:**

- Safe handwashing (COVID-19 related)
- Healthy lifestyle
- Indoor activities
- Spending quality time at home
- Expressing emotions with the help of music
- Disability and senses
- Managing stress and overcoming fear
- Integration of refugee children in schools (adaptation)



**Please subscribe to our YOUTUBE channel if you want to watch new episodes.**

## WORLD VISION in GEORGIA - A RELIABLE PARTNER



**Being transparent and accountable** to our communities, partners and donors enables us to make positive changes in the lives of vulnerable children and communities.

We are a **trusted partner** of our local communities, central and local governments, faith based organisations, and private corporations.

Our **donors and partners** are UN agencies, the European Commission, the governments of the United States, Canada, Austria, and Sweden, and a number of international foundations.

We also successfully **work with World Vision partners**, WV Germany, France, Austria, and US, the regional WV office and others to hold up our high international standards in project planning and implementation.

We **build long-term partnerships** to ensure a long-term impact. Through joint efforts, we enable children, with their families and communities, to build a better future for themselves.



Funded by  
the European Union



შვედეთი  
Sverige



UNHCR  
The UN Refugee Agency

unicef | for every child



Aktion  
Deutschland Hilft  
Germany's Relief Coalition

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