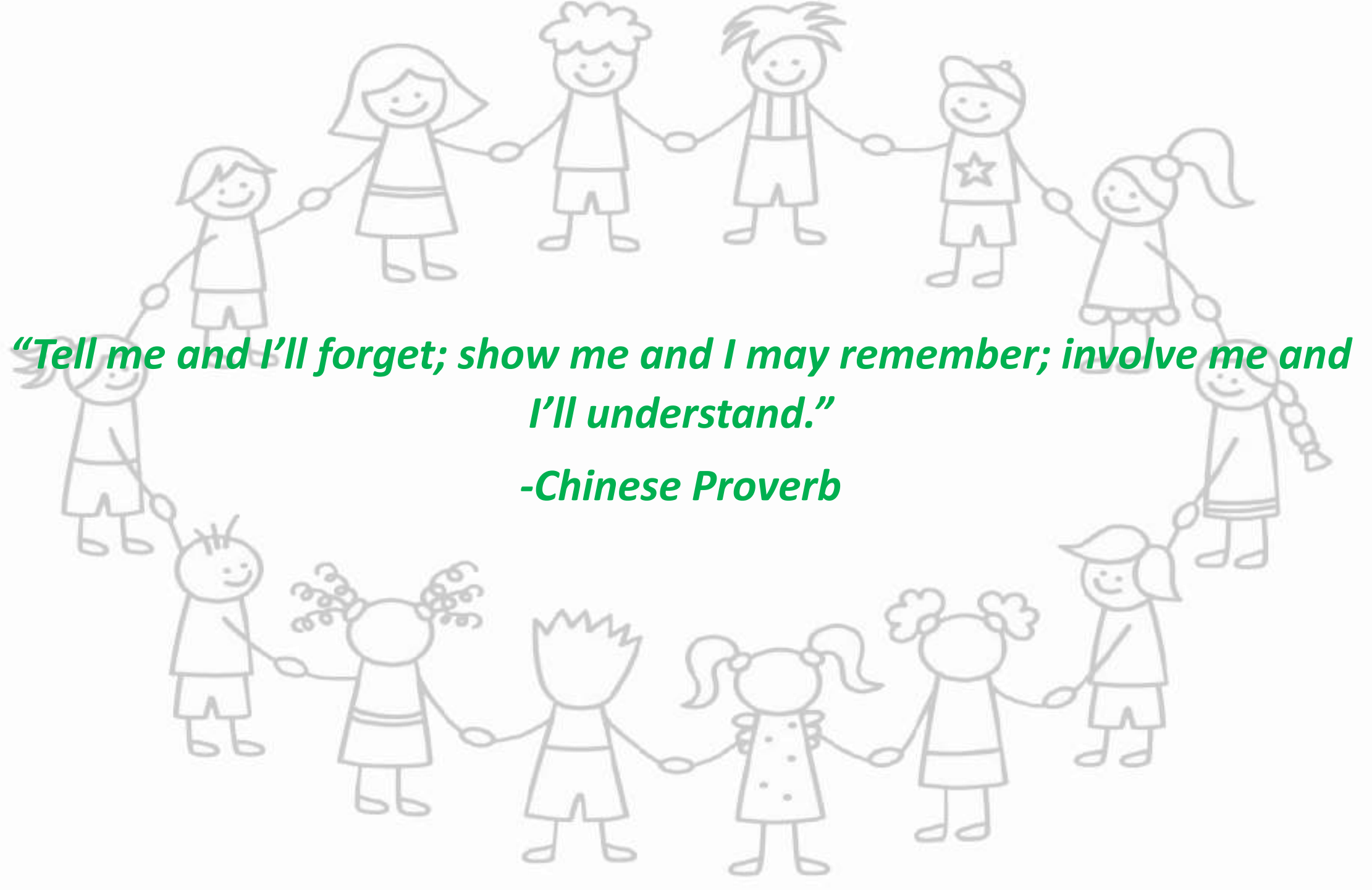




**WALDORF**  
kakuma project

# ANNUAL REPORT





***“Tell me and I’ll forget; show me and I may remember; involve me and I’ll understand.”***

***-Chinese Proverb***



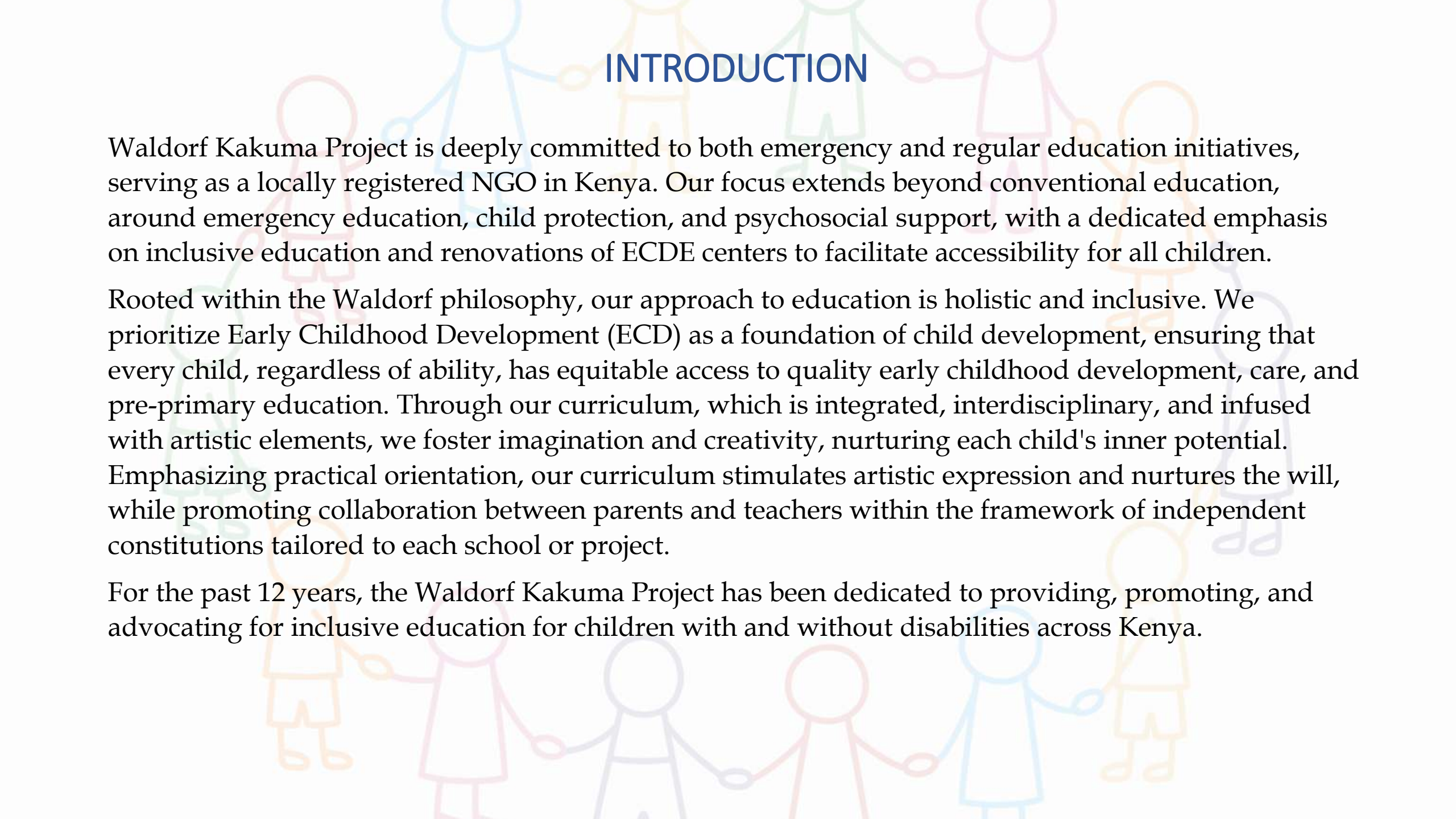
*Bellah Wairimu*

### **A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR**

The success of an organization reflects in many ways the success of the community it serves as well as the employees who serve. In 2023, Waldorf Kakuma Project found success in many levels and through the renovation of schools, trainings, psychosocial support, strengthening of partnerships at the community level as well as other community interactions. It was a year when WKP received the prestigious Zero Award which came at the organizations' 10 year milestone. WKP dedicates this award to those who have been and continue to be part of the organization in one way or the other.







## INTRODUCTION

Waldorf Kakuma Project is deeply committed to both emergency and regular education initiatives, serving as a locally registered NGO in Kenya. Our focus extends beyond conventional education, around emergency education, child protection, and psychosocial support, with a dedicated emphasis on inclusive education and renovations of ECDE centers to facilitate accessibility for all children.

Rooted within the Waldorf philosophy, our approach to education is holistic and inclusive. We prioritize Early Childhood Development (ECD) as a foundation of child development, ensuring that every child, regardless of ability, has equitable access to quality early childhood development, care, and pre-primary education. Through our curriculum, which is integrated, interdisciplinary, and infused with artistic elements, we foster imagination and creativity, nurturing each child's inner potential. Emphasizing practical orientation, our curriculum stimulates artistic expression and nurtures the will, while promoting collaboration between parents and teachers within the framework of independent constitutions tailored to each school or project.

For the past 12 years, the Waldorf Kakuma Project has been dedicated to providing, promoting, and advocating for inclusive education for children with and without disabilities across Kenya.

## **Vision:**

To transform the lives of children and adolescents affected by crises through psychosocial support and education.

## **Mission:**

To develop free human beings who are able of themselves to impart purpose and direction to their lives.

## **Core Values:**

### ACCOUNTABILITY

We hold ourselves to account through knowledge, personal responsibility, decisions and policies

### RESPECT

We value everyone and treat people with dignity and professionalism.

### EMBRACING DIVERSITY

By embracing diversity, we bring out the best in everyone

### INNOVATIVE AND CREATIVE

We seek to be dynamic in development of ideas and skills.





## WHAT DRIVES US

WKP's primary focus is on prioritizing children's well-being and rights, especially in the face of various challenges like poverty, neglect, and disabilities. They aim to create a world where children receive comprehensive care and support in all aspects of life. Through advocacy and initiatives, WKP works tirelessly to ensure children have access to quality education and opportunities for personal growth. They emphasize the importance of community and environmental factors in nurturing children, particularly through educational support. WKP remains dedicated to its vision of transforming children's lives and creating a world where every child can thrive.



# IMPACT





## PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

The prevalence of children with disabilities in Kenya is at 11.4% with the total estimated population being 2,489,252; of these 1,261,877 are males and 1,227,375 are females. A total of 7609 children were reached in Turkana West Sub County during a household survey conducted by WKP, among them, 865 had disabilities. This translates to a prevalence rate of 11.4% in Turkana West which is similar to the rate in the country. The survey results showed relatively even distribution of children with disabilities where 51.2% were males and 48.8% were females. Among all children with disabilities, the survey found that 72.6% lived in rural areas while 27.4% lived in urban areas, this indicated that disability was more rampant in rural areas. This trend was similar to the findings of the 2008 Kenya National Survey for Persons with Disabilities (2008, KNSPWD).







## MEDICAL ASSESSMENTS AND REHABILITATION

WKP has been carrying out medical assessments in the 7 wards of Turkana-West Sub-County in the year 2023 with an objective of screening children with perceived physical and cognitive(mental) disabilities, identify interventions for permanent disabilities, registration of Children with Disabilities with the NCPWD, as well as initiate and support the birth registration process using the local chiefs at the villages. In the year 2023, WKP conducted a total of 9 assessments reaching a total of 1,033(571 B:462 G) children with disabilities/impairments.

## ASSISTIVE DEVICES DISTRIBUTION

In Kenya, people with disabilities face numerous challenges in obtaining assistive devices, including low production, poor quality, financial barriers, lack of government funding, distance from production areas, and a shortage of manufacturing expertise. In 2023, WKP took steps to address some of these issues by providing assistive devices to children in the Turkana West Sub County at the Early Childhood Development (ECD) level. These devices, including wheelchairs, special seats, crutches, white canes, standing aids, and others, were distributed to children who had been assessed and prescribed by healthcare professionals. Additionally, WKP distributed drugs along with the devices to meet the needs of the children.





## INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION- MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED



WKP prioritizes inclusivity in education, ensuring all children, including those with special needs, have access to learning materials. They've distributed various resources to 137 ECDE centers in Turkana West Sub-county, aiming to equip both centers and teachers with necessary tools for effective teaching and learning. Materials range from abacus and storybooks to specialized items like braille and sensory tools. By providing tailored resources, WKP aims to enhance learning experiences, foster interest, and develop motor skills among children with disabilities. Ultimately, their efforts aim to boost enrollment, retention, and progression of learners across different educational levels.

## CBC, CBA TEACHER TRAINING

WKP acknowledges teachers as the cornerstones of society and emphasizes their pivotal role in children's development and learning, particularly in government or low-cost schools. Through years of experience, WKP has focused on strengthening teacher training and assisting them in utilizing locally available resources effectively.

In a recent initiative, WKP conducted teacher training for ECD teachers in Turkana-West Sub-County, emphasizing three key areas:

**Competency-Based Curriculum (CBC):** Teachers were introduced to the CBC framework, emphasizing diversity and inclusion principles. They learned about the shift from the old 8-4-4 system to CBC, which focuses on equipping learners with modern life skills rather than just academic competition. The training included various teaching methodologies to engage students actively and adapt the curriculum to individual needs. Additionally, it highlighted the importance of teacher-parent partnership in enhancing learning outcomes.

**Competence-Based Assessment (CBA):** Teachers received training on CBA, which assesses learners' capabilities in knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes. They learned about the transition from summative to formative assessment, which caters to all learners, including those with special needs. Various assessment tools were introduced to help teachers customize assessments accordingly.





## INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

Teachers were trained in professional methods of handling both children with and without disabilities, aiming to reduce their exclusion in school and the community. They learned strategies for creating inclusive classrooms and were equipped with skills to support children with disabilities effectively, including through the Disability Child Champions program.

Overall, the training aimed to empower teachers with the necessary skills and knowledge to foster inclusive learning environments that cater to the diverse needs of all learners.

*"This is the first ever Early childhood Inclusive Education project of its kind in Turkana west sub county where everybody is trained on matters (teachers, parents, BOMs) of Early childhood Inclusive Education and these trainings have impacted community positively and the child with disability is accorded right to Education just like other children." by Teacher Joab Pamoe , Kakuma Arid Zone ECDE.*

*"CBM-WALDORF Inclusive Education trainings have made us better teachers and handling children with disabilities is no longer a challenge."by Teacher Rachel Lokudele ECDE centre.*





## COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION

### *Home Visits*

WKP local social workers in the 7 wards of Turkana-West Sub-County conducted visits activities (Home and school) to create awareness on Inclusive Education, children's rights, and child care including the nutrition and immunization of CWDs thus leading to increase in access, enrolment and retention of Children with disabilities at schools. Through the home visits WKP monitors the progress of Children with disabilities as well as the usage of the assistive devices and prescribed drugs distributed by WKP.

### *Radio talk shows*

According to the media council of Kenya, radio listenership was more common among people of ages 35 to 55 years listening for an average of 3 to 4 hours a day. In Turkana, most people listen to the local radio station, Attanayece and Biblia husema studio as most households do not have power connectivity and cannot therefore watch television or use other technology appliances. WKP therefore uses local radio stations to create awareness of its various activities and ongoing programs. The radio listeners tend to be parents and caregivers therefore making it impactful to use the radio communication. During the radio shows, WKP addresses topics on child care, child support, nutrition, immunization and school accessibility. This has enabled WKP to reach, inform, give the community a forum to air their views and ask questions on the various topics and make an impact even in the most remote places within Turkana-West Sub-County.



## HOUSEHOLD SURVEY

A household survey was conducted in Turkana West Sub County by WKP to gather data on children with disabilities and those without. The aim was to provide evidence for better inclusive education programming. The study identified the number and types of disabilities, demographic information, school access, retention, and transition rates. It also assessed attitudes towards disability to propose interventions for positive behavioral change. Findings indicated children faced difficulties across various levels, with limited access to equipment and services. Refugees had better support due to more organizations operating in the camps. Recommendations were made for improved interventions by WKP/CBM and the Turkana County Government.



## ACCESSIBILITY AUDIT

An accessibility audit was conducted to evaluate the current state of educational accessibility for children with and without disabilities in Early Childhood Development and Education (ECDE) centers in Turkana West Sub County, Kenya. The audit focused on assessing infrastructure such as classrooms, wash facilities, and playgrounds, aiming to identify necessary modifications to enhance educational and social inclusion for all children. Community input was considered to improve safety and inclusivity. The assessment also addressed obstacles to access, availability of inclusive teaching materials, integration of children with disabilities into regular classrooms, sufficiency of resources in Educational Assessment and Resource Centers (EARC), referral processes to rehabilitative facilities, and factors hindering integration.





## ECDE CENTERS RENOVATIONS

In line with the Turkana CIDP III 2023-2027, WKP has been renovating a number of ECD centers. One of the objectives being to provide education geared towards holistic development of the child's capability. This enhances quality of Early Childhood Development Education and it aligns with the sector priority strategies.

WKP carried out renovations targeting 22 ECDE centers from the host community, 3 ECDE centers from Kalobeyei refugee settlement and 1 EARC center in Kakuma. The aim of the renovations is to improve on accessibility and create a more disability and child friendly as well as a safe environment for learning and play in the ECDE centers for both children with and without disabilities. The ECDE centers renovated are Government ECDE centers having both PP1 and PP2 classes in each center, each class having an average of 60 children per class.



*BEFORE*



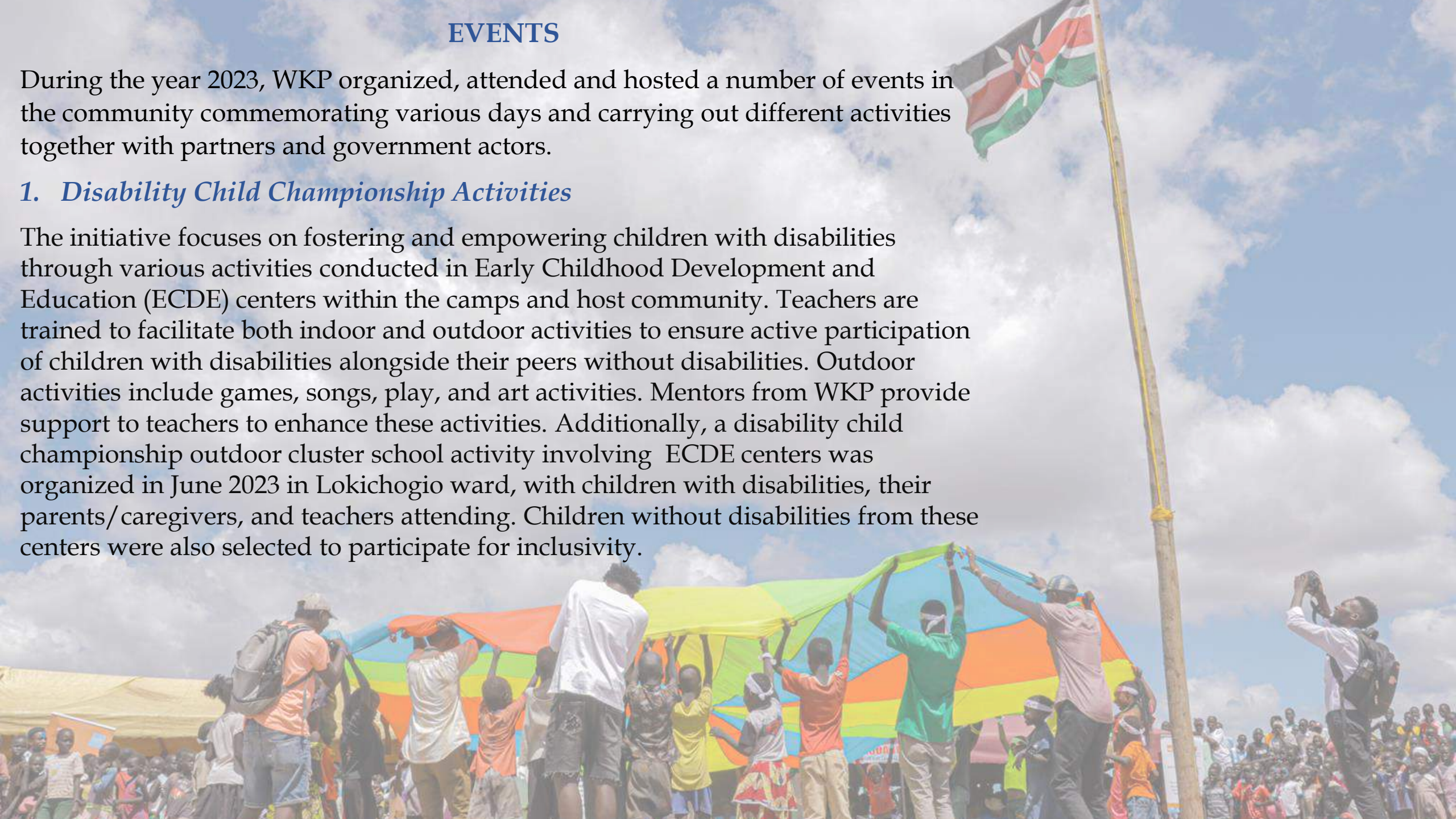
*AFTER*

## EVENTS

During the year 2023, WKP organized, attended and hosted a number of events in the community commemorating various days and carrying out different activities together with partners and government actors.

### *1. Disability Child Championship Activities*

The initiative focuses on fostering and empowering children with disabilities through various activities conducted in Early Childhood Development and Education (ECDE) centers within the camps and host community. Teachers are trained to facilitate both indoor and outdoor activities to ensure active participation of children with disabilities alongside their peers without disabilities. Outdoor activities include games, songs, play, and art activities. Mentors from WKP provide support to teachers to enhance these activities. Additionally, a disability child championship outdoor cluster school activity involving ECDE centers was organized in June 2023 in Lokichogio ward, with children with disabilities, their parents/caregivers, and teachers attending. Children without disabilities from these centers were also selected to participate for inclusivity.





## 2. ECDE NETWORK

The 5<sup>th</sup> National Early Childhood Development stakeholders conference was held from 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> July, 2023 at Stegra Hotel, Lodwar in Turkana County – Kenya.

This conference provided an opportunity to explore the challenges and opportunities associated with *Translating policy and evidence into action* as the theme of the event.

In the conference, WKP showcased videos advocating for inclusion, full participation of children, teachers, communities and stakeholders in creation of inclusive and enabling environment for children in the ECDE centres in Turkana West Sub county.

The ECD Network of Kenya played a vital role in strengthening partnerships, conducting research, and advocating for ECDE programs across Kenya, with a focus on improving access and quality for children.



### 3.WORLD REFUGEE DAY

This is a global event celebrated on 20<sup>th</sup> June every year. In 2023 World Refugee Day, Waldorf celebrated this day with refugee children at the Kalobeyei Reception Centre Child Friendly Space (CFS) including children with disabilities. This special day featured various performances by children including art and play activities, all centered around the theme of the day, which focused on *Hope away from Home*. WKP provided refreshments for the children who were in attendance.

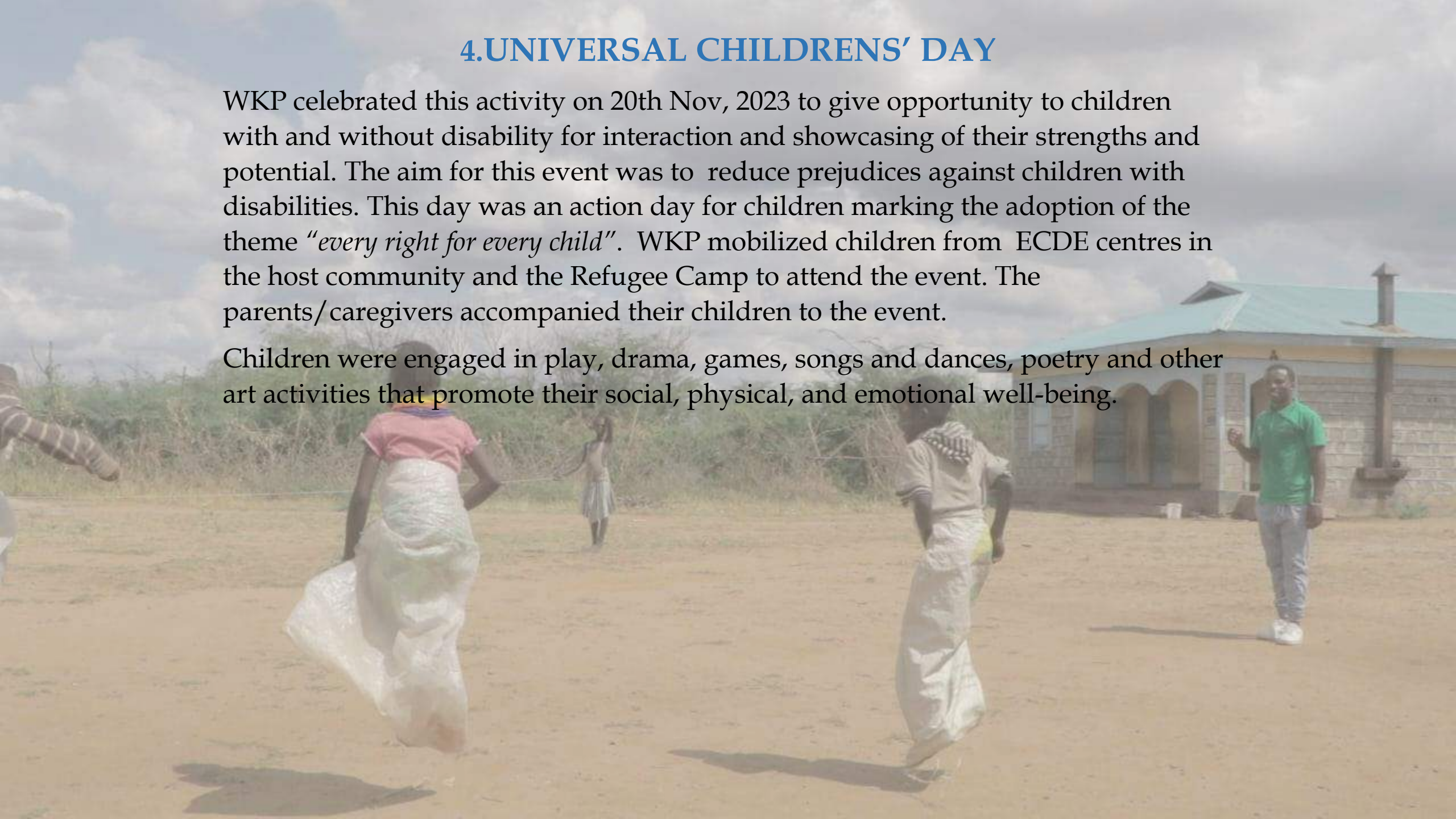




## 4.UNIVERSAL CHILDRENS' DAY

WKP celebrated this activity on 20th Nov, 2023 to give opportunity to children with and without disability for interaction and showcasing of their strengths and potential. The aim for this event was to reduce prejudices against children with disabilities. This day was an action day for children marking the adoption of the theme "*every right for every child*". WKP mobilized children from ECDE centres in the host community and the Refugee Camp to attend the event. The parents/caregivers accompanied their children to the event.

Children were engaged in play, drama, games, songs and dances, poetry and other art activities that promote their social, physical, and emotional well-being.

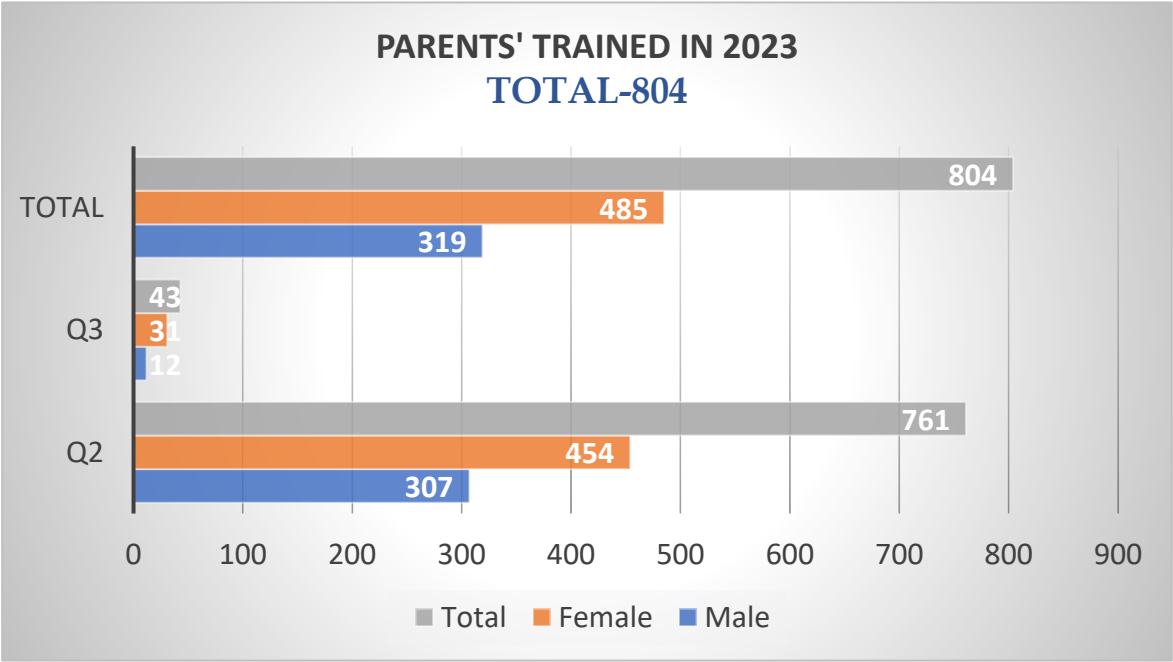
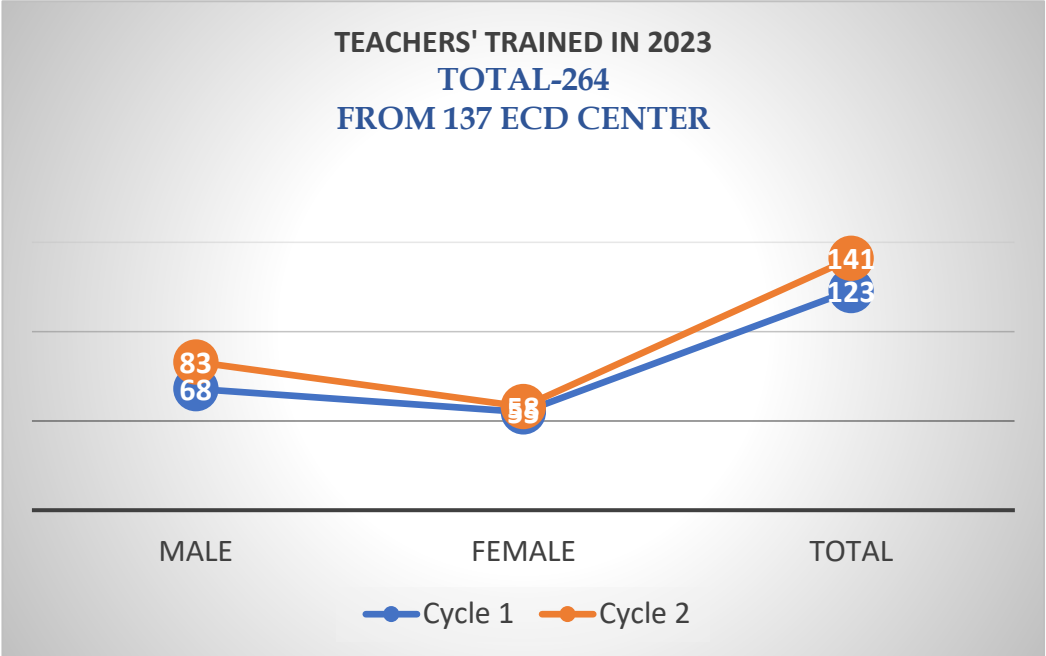
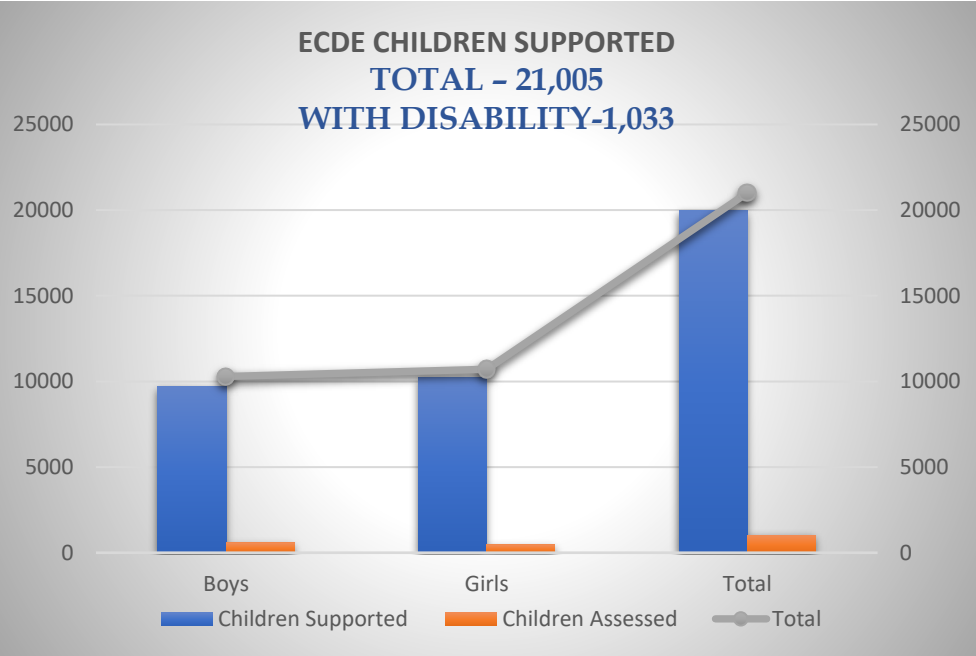




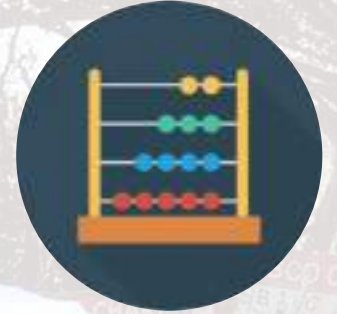


# KEY ACHIEVEMENTS





# ASSITVE DEVICES DISTRIBUTION



WKP Distributed 142 assistive devices to various children with different types of impairment. These ADs were recommended by Medical specialists during medical and educational assessment of children with disabilities in Lokichoggio, Lorus and Nanaam wards.

The 142 Ads that were distributed were;  
*wheelchairs, special seats, pairs auxiliary crutches, pieces walking aid sticks, pieces standing aids, pair of elbow crutches, white cane, electric toothbrushes, tongue depressors, stuffed human dolls, mirrors etc*

The inclusive education / therapeutic materials for both children with and without disabilities were procured for 136 ECDE centers from both host and refugee ECDE centers.





## RENOVATIONS

**Renovation process for 13 ECDE host centers and 3 refugee ECDE centers started. It was done in 2 phases;**

**Phase 1: Renovation for 5 ECDE centers.**

**Phase 2: Renovation of 11 ECDE centers is ongoing.**









# OUR PARTNERS







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