



terre des hommes
stops child exploitation



STRONGER TOGETHER

EAST AFRICA ANNUAL REPORT 2020

Terre des Hommes Netherlands

Who we are

Terre des Hommes Netherlands is a Dutch not-for-profit child rights organisation dedicated to stopping child exploitation.

What we do

Stopping child exploitation, the most serious violations of the rights of the child, is the core of our work. We fight child exploitation through quality programmes, capacity building of the local civil society sector, investigation of child rights violations and lobby for better compliance with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Our Vision

Terre des Hommes Netherlands is working towards a world in which children are no longer exploited, in which all children can live in dignity and develop their talents in a safe and loving environment. We will continue our work until this has been accomplished.

Our Mission

Terre des Hommes Netherlands prevents child exploitation, removes children from exploitative situations and ensures these children can develop themselves in a safe environment.

Disclaimer

This overview is a summarised version of the 2020 Annual Report, focusing solely on the region East Africa. For the current Terre des Hommes Netherlands' annual report in English covering the whole organisation and including the complete audited accounts, kindly visit our website: <https://www.terredeshommes.nl/en/publications>

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FOREWORD

I am pleased to present the 2020 regional annual report highlighting our achievements in East Africa as we navigated new and unprecedented times in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic. In spite of it all, we continued to implement our activities, adjusting our projects accordingly to cater to the most immediate needs of vulnerable children and families within the region. We recognised that the new environment proved to be challenging to many, including children who, with school closures, were at a higher risk of exploitation. Increased economic hardship, tension within households and an uncertain future also heightened the difficult situation.

With this in mind we actively collaborated with our partners and other actors to lobby governments, the international community and stakeholders to focus on the rights of children particularly during the crisis.

Internally, Terre des Hommes Netherlands continued to evaluate and develop new approaches to achieve our goal to end child exploitation. 2020 was a year devoted to revisiting our strategy. The result, our new strategy 2021-2025 focuses on exposing and responding to the hidden, underexposed and under-reported forms of child exploitation taking place all over the world. Our vision remains a world without child exploitation, so that children can be children. As a leading child rights organisation, children form the heart of our work, also in the new strategy. One of our strategic priorities is to have children participating meaningfully in our work.

I take this time to appreciate our donors, development partners and internal stakeholders who have weathered the Covid-19 storm to ensure that children's rights are respected by all. To our new partners, welcome on board, we look forward to new and interesting prospects ahead.

“We have soldiered on, built resilience and developed new approaches that will steer us to the next stage in our exciting journey; towards a world free of child exploitation.”

Raphael Kariuki
Head of Region, East Africa and Madagascar
Terre des Hommes Netherlands



2020 HIGHLIGHTS

81,499

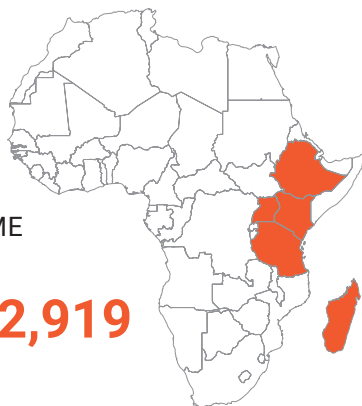
CHILDREN HELPED

31

PROJECTS

REGIONAL
PROGRAMME
BUDGET

€ 4,092,919



OUR FOCUS

SAFEGUARDING

41,815 children protected from abusive, exploitative and dangerous situations

Impact per theme



CTM - 1,953
SEC - 38,496
CA - 1,366

EDUCATION

5,266 children enrolled in educational programmes



CTM - 3,063
SEC - 2,095
CA - 108

LEGAL ADVICE

1,514 abused/exploited children received legal assistance



CTM - 509
SEC - 102
CA - 903

LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT

4,665 parents/guardians and adolescent survivors supported with income generating activities



CTM - 2,324
SEC - 1,520
HA - 821

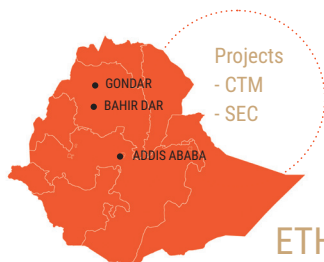
AWARENESS CREATION

966,202 community members reached through awareness activities



CTM - 65,110
SEC - 869,023
CA - 31,198
WFCL - 871

OUR RESULTS



ETHIOPIA

Children	10,511
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Families & Communities	16,784
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Government Officials	675
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CSO Organisations	182
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Private Sector	156
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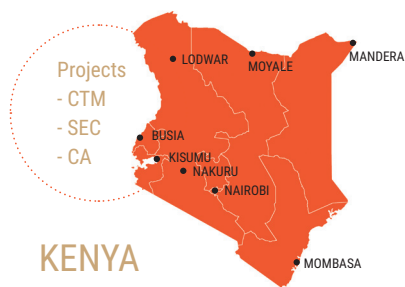
Children	46,842
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Families & Communities	873,784
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Government Officials	190
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CSO Organisations	115
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Private Sector	187
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KENYA

Children	23,282
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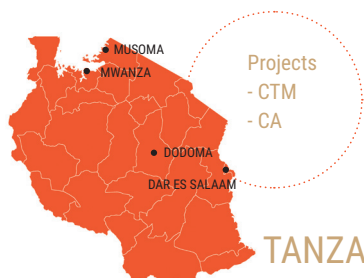
Families & Communities	64,541
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Government Officials	427
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Law Enforcement Officers	413
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CSO Organisations	17
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Private Sector	35
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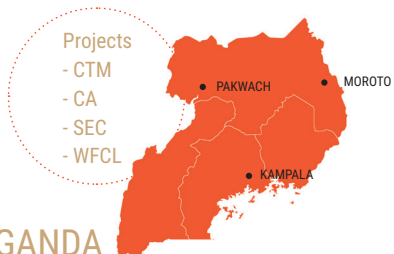
TANZANIA

Children	864
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Families & Communities	1,199
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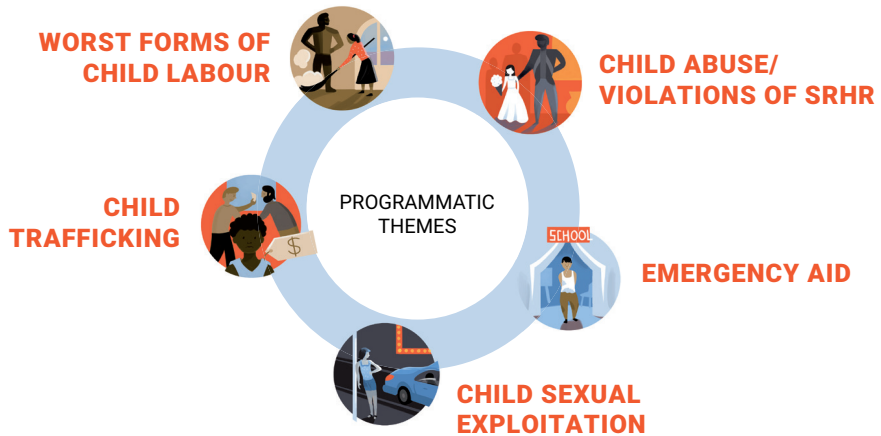
Government Officials	229
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CSO Organisations	17
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UGANDA

OUR THEMES



Stopping child exploitation, the most serious violations of the rights of the child, is the core of Terre des Hommes Netherlands' work. In line with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and International Labour Organization (ILO) standards as laid down in Conventions 138 and 182, our definition covers:

- **child trafficking and unsafe migration;**
- **sexual exploitation of children;**
- the **worst forms of child labour;** and
- **child abuse** including **violations of the sexual and reproductive health rights (SRHR)** of adolescents and **retrogressive cultural practices** such as child marriage and female genital mutilation.

In addition, **humanitarian assistance** is an integral part of our activities, in particular child protection and stopping child exploitation in emergency situations.

OUR APPROACH

The aim of Terre des Hommes Netherlands is to create an environment in which children can claim their rights and live in a world without exploitation and abuse. To this end, we have identified stakeholders with whom we can achieve lasting change. These include children, families and communities, governments, law enforcement agencies, the private sector and CSOs. Through these five interventions, we seek to create a world free of child exploitation:



PREVENTION

To empower children and mobilise families and communities for prevention of child exploitation, we constantly invest in education services and awareness-raising campaigns.



PROVISION

To protect and empower children with the aim of a safe and sustainable reintegration in society, we provide child victims of exploitation with education, shelter, gainful employment, medical care and therapy services.



PROMOTION

To advocate and uphold the rights of children, we organise public and media campaigns, conduct research into the scale and nature of abuse and exploitation, as well as lobby for attention and change.



PROSECUTION

To seek justice for the victims, we assist children and their families to report abuse and exploitation cases, offer legal aid and social protection, train and assist police, public prosecution offices and justice departments.



PARTNERSHIP & PARTICIPATION

We engage and strengthen civil society in the promotion of children's rights to ensure children are protected. Meaningful participation of children is enshrined in all our programmes.



COVID RESPONSE

The year 2020 brought about new and unprecedented challenges as the Covid-19 pandemic spread around the world. Within the region mitigation measures, some of which included school closures, curfews and strict government directives, placed vulnerable children at higher risk of exploitation and child abuse. Safe spaces within the school environment were no longer accessible to children and families began facing heightened economic stress.

During this time Terre des Hommes Netherlands provided Covid-19 support in the form of hygiene kits, food and cash transfers to those most in need. We continued to provide safe spaces for children in need of protection, focused on their increased vulnerability to certain forms of exploitation due to the Covid-19 pandemic, such as unsafe migration and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM).

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Cash transfers to support vulnerable families in the Covid-19 crisis in Kenya

Terre des Hommes Netherlands supported 50 families within its ongoing project which addresses child sexual exploitation in Busia county, Kenya.

The supported families were already economically vulnerable, and were struggling with the economic effects of the Covid-19 crisis, coupled with flooding in their area resulting from excessive rains.

Families were provided with emergency food support via cash transfers, a preferred method to in-kind food donations. This form of support makes use of the mobile phone payment technology, is faster to organise, and gives families the flexibility and independence in deciding what they need most.

Providing masks to keep learners safe

When Kenyan schools reopened for candidates in October, it was mandatory for pupils to wear face masks as a prevention measure against Covid-19. However for many households experiencing economic hardships as a result of the pandemic this was hard to prioritise. Terre des Hommes Netherlands therefore provided face masks to vulnerable children in our project in Busia, thus enabling 700 students in 10 schools to resume their education.

Game based learning to protect children from Covid-19

A lot of learning takes place through play and board games have significant benefits for children – both socially and in terms of awareness raising. In 2020, Terre des Hommes Netherlands developed a modified version of the popular board game Snakes & Ladders to engage children in Covid-19 awareness and give them useful tips to stay healthy and avoid infection.

Rescued from mutilation during the Covid-19 school closedown in Tanzania

“When I came home after my school had closed, my aunt told me ‘We are planning to have you cut.’ I felt extremely sad. Then she kept quiet about it, so I supposed my family had postponed their plans and I was not going to be mutilated after all. I really thought the threat was gone and it was safe for me to remain home. I did not suspect that in fact they were continuing with their preparations, in all secrecy. Then Thursday afternoon, all of a sudden Dora and Ashura came to my house and took me to the shelter in Masanga. I was shocked how fast it all went.”

Winfrida (15 years) was taken to the rescue centre of our partner Association for the Termination of Female Mutilation (ATFGM) by Dora and Ashura, who are ATFGM’s legal officer and social worker respectively. ATFGM acted upon a tip-off from one of the community informers they cooperate with. This anti-FGM volunteer had heard that Winfrida was to be mutilated at dawn, in the early morning of Friday 8 May. This was not the first time for Winfrida to stay at the rescue centre.

“I stayed in the Masanga centre for the first time when I was only 9 years old, during the cutting season of my clan. Four times in total I have been here to be protected from Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), in 2014, 2016, 2018 and 2019.”

When Dora and Ashura arrived at Winfrida’s house on Thursday afternoon, they did not find her. Luckily the girl’s brother, Stephen, was home and knew where she was. He took them to the girl and she was rescued.

By then Winfrida had been home for almost eight weeks, after the Tanzanian government abruptly closed all schools when the first Covid-19 case was confirmed in the country.

Winfrida is currently in Form One at a governmental secondary school in central Tanzania, about 600 kilometres away from her home. She was born and raised in the Bwirege clan, the largest and most dominant clan of the Kuria community in Tarime District in Northern Tanzania. In the years that this clan has been mutilating, Winfrida has been staying in the ATFGM rescue centre in Masanga.

“ My aunt told me ‘We are planning to have you cut.’ I felt extremely sad. ”

Joint advocacy

End Violence Against Children: Violence against children is a hidden crisis of the Covid-19 pandemic.

In April 2020, a total of 22 leaders representing various UN agencies and INGOs came together to call for action to protect children from the increased risk of violence during the Covid-19 pandemic. Terre Des Hommes International Federation (TDHIF) was among the signatories. The Leaders Statement reiterated the importance of protecting children from violence and reducing the impact of Covid-19 on children in every country and community. The paper called upon governments to ensure that Covid-19 prevention and response plans integrated age-appropriate and gender-sensitive measures to protect all children from violence, neglect and abuse.

Children's views on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic

The #CovidUnder19 global survey is an initiative led by children and young people to better understand the impact of the pandemic and related measures worldwide, from their viewpoint. An impressive 26,458 children from 137 countries participated in this survey. Findings indicate that the pandemic has had and still has a major impact on children and youth. Terre des Hommes Netherlands has been instrumental in the translation of the survey into Kiswahili to make it more accessible for children within the East African region.



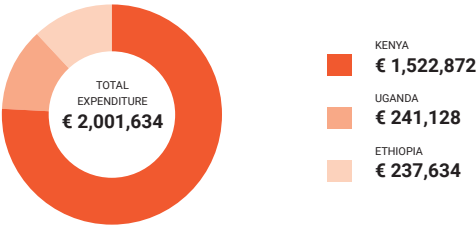


CHAMPIONING THE FIGHT AGAINST SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN

In East Africa, children are often lured into the sex industry with promises of money and a better lifestyle for themselves and their families. Child sexual exploitation (CSE) takes many forms from the production of child pornography to the exploitation of child domestic workers. Poverty, dysfunctional families coupled with a weak child protection structure are often contributing factors to the sexual exploitation of children.

Terre des Hommes Netherlands is committed to curbing and eliminating all forms of child sexual exploitation within the region by supporting local organisations and networks championing the fight against child exploitation. Our projects not only help child victims of sexual exploitation but also focuses on prevention.

BUDGET



Girls making a difference in their own future

Jesca is a trusted face for many children in Turkana. She used to go out on the streets at night in outreaches, to get to know the exploited children who spent the night outside in the dark. Tirelessly she would make personal contact with girls who engaged in transactional sex or who were on the verge of doing so for reasons of survival. Night after night she would build a relationship of trust with them, as the basis for getting them off the street. "They all called me Mum."

From the street outreach, Jesca moved into her current role of overseeing all our work to stop child sexual exploitation in Turkana. Not only is she the trusted person for the girls who with our support step out of the sexual exploitation, she also engages with other key players in this problem. She empowers families with positive parenting skills and helps change their perspective and approach towards actively supporting their children and being involved in their lives. In addition, she works with authorities, the private sector and law enforcers to ensure child friendly policies for children withdrawn from exploitative environments are in place.

Jesca was born and raised in Turkana and, like the children on the street, has a turbulent background. She never got to know her father even though her family knew who he was. Her relatives did not want to disclose for fear of losing her. Her mother died when she was only 12 years old. Jesca, who was in standard 6, was left with her younger brother under the care of her maternal grandmother and uncles. Her younger brother fled, 9 years old at that time. "He told me that these people would never take as good care of us as our mother, and that he would rather go begging and sleep on the street." Jesca soon found out that her family was in the process of marrying her off to the 50-year-old neighbour as his second wife. With the help of her Catholic priests, she fled and went into hiding the day before her planned wedding.

That day, Jesca made a commitment to dedicate her life to protecting children in similar circumstances. The priests supported her in completing her primary and secondary education. "Because someone was there for me at the time, I was saved from child marriage. Now I want to be that person for those kids out there who don't have anyone else to care about them. Because after rehabilitation and education, these children can also make a difference in their own future and that of their community."



“I can now focus on my education”

Naomi* is 16 years old and in secondary school. She lives in Mombasa, Kenya in a single-roomed house together with her brother and her father who is the sole provider for the family. Life is tough for the family as they depend on the menial jobs her father gets on a day-to-day basis. Many times they have even gone to bed hungry. These difficult circumstances pushed Naomi to search for extra money for the family. Impressed by the comfortable lifestyles of her friends within the neighbourhood, Naomi was quickly lured into sexual exploitation. To help her father who was struggling to make ends meet, she felt obliged to contribute towards the household needs.

One day, a neighbour, who is a community leader, identified Naomi as a victim of sexual exploitation when conducting home visits. This started the ball rolling for Naomi, and she was taken up in our project to curb child sexual exploitation at the Kenyan Coast. The girls was helped with counselling and education support. Additionally, Naomi's father, who is a painter, was trained on income generating skills and provided with startup capital, to help him restock paints and paint brushes to use in his painting services. This has helped him getting jobs regularly and he can provide his children with basic needs.

Life has changed for the better and Naomi is also working towards a brighter future. She is now able to concentrate on her studies without worrying about school fees and necessary materials.

“The assistance has helped me to perform better, through school visits and mentoring. I can now learn comfortably without the fear of getting sent away for school fees.” A bright future lies ahead of Naomi: “I want to join college to study Bakery and Catering; and become a professional chef at one of the high end hotels here at the Coast.”

“ The assistance is important because it has helped me to do better in my performance through school visits and mentoring. It has helped me to learn comfortably without the fear of getting sent away for school fees. ”

*Names have been changed to protect the identity of survivors

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Launch of training module: Online Safety for Children

Children are spending more time online studying and socialising following the Covid-19 restrictions and school closures. However, the online environment presents many risks that children need to learn, recognise and navigate.

As part of our Safe Online project in Kenya, Terre des Hommes Netherlands in partnership with the Ministry of Education developed a training module on online safety for children to help them, their parents and caregivers to identify, respond and prevent online abuse and exploitation. The module has been approved by the Kenyan Institute for Curriculum Development (KICD) for use in Kenyan schools.

The Ministry of Education officially launched the manuals in the presence of the initiators and other stakeholders involved in the online protection of children, such as the Directorate of Criminal Investigations and the Communications Authority of Kenya.



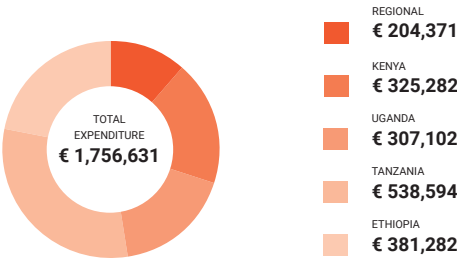


PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM UNSAFE MIGRATION AND CHILD TRAFFICKING

Every year 1.2 million children worldwide are trafficked. Two out of every three of these trafficked children are girls. The majority of these children is destined for child sexual exploitation or forced into child labour.

At Terre des Hommes Netherlands, we fight child trafficking by helping families earn better incomes, providing education to children, conducting awareness, and liaising with communities to help them better care for children. We also work alongside law enforcers to track exploited children and punish traffickers. Additionally, we provide victims with a safe place and medical care.

BUDGET



“I feel a sense of safety and security”

Tigist hails from a large family that depends on self-subsistence farming. Their one-roomed house doubles as a stable for their livestock. Food is often not enough, and money for scholastic and other basic needs is scarce. When her father died two years ago, Tigist's family sank into even deeper poverty.

As one of the older children in the seven-person household, Tigist spent most of her time working instead of learning which led to low grades. Overburdened by her heavy workload, she was drawn to Metema, the border town to Sudan.

Leaving her family and home behind, Tigist was lured into an illegal border crossing by a 'sympathiser' who in reality was a child trafficker. Without any papers, they used hidden routes on foot and once in Sudan, her trafficker handed her over to a 'friend'. This friend in reality was an abusive, demanding boss. Tigist was forced to work long hours and was loaded with many tasks. Furthermore, she was constantly insulted and severely beaten and was never paid.

After enduring this for two months, Tigist decided to report the abuse and exploitation to a local policeman. Being illegal in Sudan, she was arrested and taken to prison where she spent a total of two months and 22 days awaiting deportation.

Back in Ethiopia, Tigist was immediately taken into the care of the anti-trafficking task force of our Paths to Safer Childhood project. She received shelter, food and psychosocial support, to build her resilience and prepare her for her return home. In close collaboration with the police and local authorities, Tigist's trafficker was brought to book. After two months of detainment, he was released on a cash bail of 5,000 Ethiopian birr (around € 100), which is approximately 15% of the average annual income per person in Ethiopia.

Almost six months after her departure, Tigist has been reunited with her family and is back in school, with scholastic materials provided by the project. Her family has been introduced to the local Self Help Group, to help them develop alternative livelihoods so that her mother can better support the education of her children. Tigist is happy to be back home.

“The biggest change in my life is to get reunified with my family. Currently, I feel a sense of security and safety living with my relatives in our village. You have saved my life. ”

Milka gets justice

Milka grew up with her grandparents, who as a peasant farmer struggled to care for her and her four siblings. Early September 2019, then 15 years old, Milka met a business lady in Misungwi, the girl's home town about 50 kilometres from Mwanza in Tanzania. The lady had come from the city to the local market to look for a domestic worker. She offered Milka a job at 40,000 Tanzanian shillings per month (about € 15) and the opportunity for vocational training.

"The offer seemed very great. I thought I had found a way of freeing my family from the poverty we were silently enduring," Milka recalls. So she travelled to Mwanza and started the job. Milka had to work very hard. Two weeks into her job, the harsh treatment started. She was caned for even the slightest mistake, and constantly verbally abused. And to top it all she was never paid nor did she receive any of the promised clothes and training.

One night when her employer was out of town, her husband sexually abused Milka. The following day he gave the girl some money and told her to take the bus home to Misungwi. At the bus station, Milka realised her money had been pickpocketed. Without money and a place to go to, she spent the night at the bus station.

As it happened, our partner Kiwohede was holding an awareness event at the bus station, to sensitise the public on child trafficking for domestic labour. Milka reported her own case, and got taken up in Kiwohede's rehabilitation programme. The programme supported Milka with shelter, medical services, counseling and legal aid.

After filing the defilement case to the police, the accused was arrested. Investigation was done and the case was taken to the national prosecution service. Court proceedings took place in Mwanza resident Magistrate Court.

"He called me to the sitting room and when I got there he forced me to enter. I refused but he forced me and he raped me. He threatened me that if I told anyone about the incident he will kill me."

Kiwohede assisted Milka with court representation. After a series of hearing and witnessing sessions in court, the case was ruled on the 30th November 2020. The accused was found guilty and was sentenced to thirty years imprisonment.

Milka has since been reunified with her family in her home village Misungwi. While in the Kiwohede shelter, she was trained in tailoring. We have supported her with

a sewing machine and seed capital to start her own tailoring business. This has enabled Milka to earn a steady income of around € 2 to € 5 per day.

“I am happy since I have a permanent and dependable source of income. Moreover, I am happy knowing that the person who abused me was convicted.”

“ Before my stay at Kiwohede I was unaware of my basic rights. You became my voice by pushing my case to the court of law where my abuser was punished for his inhuman action. ”

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Joint mapping reveals trafficking hotspots and routes in and out of Kenya

Terre des Hommes Netherlands and our partners in Kenya teamed up with peer organisations under the Stop the Traffik Kenya initiative, to centrally collect and document all relevant data from our programmes addressing (child/human) trafficking and migration in the country.

The published report “Kenya’s human trafficking routes: new data insights into high activity locations and regional risk” reveals the origin, transit and destination locations in and out of Kenya of migrating and trafficked humans (including children).

One of the main conclusions of this mapping exercise is that the data indicate that traffickers are increasingly abandoning the existing well-known routes. Alternative new corridors have been identified to avoid being under the radar of the Kenyan government and of the civil society organisations working to stop trafficking. This emphasises the need for continued collaboration by government and civil society to share learning and insights and to jointly re-strategise on anti-trafficking responses.

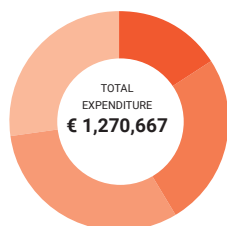


GIRLS ADVOCACY ALLIANCE (GAA)

The Girls Advocacy Alliance is committed to fighting violence against girls and young women and increasing their economic participation in ten countries across Africa and Asia, including Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda. This five-year programme is an initiative of Plan Nederland, Defence for Children - ECPAT Netherlands and Terre des Hommes Netherlands. Advocating for Girls is funded and implemented in partnership with the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Terre des Hommes Netherlands in collaboration with the Coalition on Violence Against Women (COVAW), has been implementing the Girls Advocacy Alliance (GAA) programme in Kwale County (Kenya) since 2016, through the engagement of communities, civil society organisations, policymakers, duty bearers and decision-makers in government and the private sector.

BUDGET



REGIONAL	€ 204,371
KENYA	€ 324,573
UGANDA	€ 398,578
ETHIOPIA	€ 343,145

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Nambwa FM: the movie based on girls' real-life experiences

Nambwa FM is a compelling movie that illustrates how girls and young women can rise up against the odds and drive change in the community. Set in Kwale county, Kenya, the film is based on real-life experiences and was produced through a co-creation process involving girls and young women as the primary co-creators. The feature film seeks to inspire youth advocates to share their narratives and perspectives to influence change in their communities and beyond.

Awards

Nambwa FM received five nominations in the 2020 Kalasha International Film and Television awards festival and a Special Jury Award during the Kisima Music and Film Awards in Nairobi, Kenya.

Registration of motorbike riders to ensure easy identification

Motorbike taxis in Uganda's capital Kampala have adopted a registration system giving a unique code to every rider. To increase the personal safety of girls who use the bikes for their transport (or *boda bodas* as they are locally called), each rider is now easily recognisable. Should any of the *boda* riders harass or abuse a girl, he can be identified for the girl to report and get justice. The introduction of the registration resulted from intensive lobbying between the local authorities, the Girls Advocacy Alliance (GAA) youth advocates and the leader of the *boda boda* association.

Boda boda rides or motorbike taxis are the common and affordable mode of transport in Uganda's capital Kampala. However, they are also notorious for their riders, who used to not shy away from abusing or exploiting vulnerable girls. Because of their behaviour, the *boda boda* riders became scapegoats in the area of Kampala that is considered the hotspot for sexual exploitation of children (SEC).

To clear their reputation and thus improve their business, the leader of the *boda boda* association teamed up with the area's mayor and the girl advocates from Terre des Hommes Netherlands' anti-SEC project. In addition to adopting the registration they also agreed to introduce uniforms for their riders for better identification.

“Nambwa FM could have been my story”

Nyota* (25): ““From an early age I have had a passion for theatre, music and dance. I didn’t have to think twice when I could audition for a real movie. I was overjoyed when I was chosen. I am one of the actors in the movie Nambwa FM!

Nambwa FM is about the problems girls and young women face in the coastal region of Kenya. It could have been my story. My father died when I was ten years old. It was impossible to go to school every day, because often there was no money for food or the bus. I was sixteen when I finished primary school. My mother remarried and moved. I was left with my sisters, without money. So I looked for a man for help. I got pregnant as a teenager while still in school. I became a mother when I was nineteen.

That’s how I ended up at the Girls Advocacy Alliance programme, as a teenage mother. After training in various lobbying skills, I work as a youth advocate championing equal opportunities for girls and young women. I have raised issues such as the deprivation of girls within the community. And now I have discovered my talent, thanks to the movie. After the shooting, I was asked by a local theater company to join them. That way I can further develop my acting talent.”

* Names have been changed to protect the identity of survivors



“I wouldn’t love my fellow children to go through what I experienced”

Sonia (17) from Uganda is a passionate child rights advocate with a zeal to make a change in her circles of influence. She focuses on stopping child trafficking and unsafe migration; and the importance of education, especially for the girl child. Issues that she can relate to from her own experience since she was trafficked and exploited when she was only seven years old.

“Ten years ago, my parents were involved in domestic violence that tore our family apart. I was taken to the city by my aunt with a hope of a better life. As a seven-

year-old girl, little did I know that this better life would mean living in the slum with harsh living conditions. Just a day after I arrived in Kampala, I was forced to go to the streets to beg and make money for my aunt, to meet her basic needs in the slum. Life on the street was so harsh, begging from morning to sunset daily, rain or shine. Finding food was hard and at the end of the day, aunty only becomes happy when I come with money. When there is no money she could beat and deny me food. This went on for months.”

Sonia was rescued from the streets, rehabilitated and reunited with her parents who had gotten back together. Back home, she was enrolled in school. Sonia completed her primary education in 2018 and transitioned into secondary education.

“While in school, I joined the child rights club both in primary and at my secondary school. This club, established with support from the Girls Advocacy Alliance, is an advocacy platform for us as children to advocate and claim our rights; sensitise fellow children on their rights and responsibilities, and above all to end all forms of abuse to children.”

Over the years, the child rights club members have received various training, support through organised events (youth camps, debates, quiz competitions, children's parliament) and their own initiated activities (door-to-door awareness campaigns, presentations at school assemblies). This has helped Sonia gain knowledge and skills in lobby and advocacy so that she can speak up on issues affecting children and youth within their communities.

Sonia speaks out on the importance and significance of educating a girl child in a society where the education of girls used to be taboo and not given any value, both to local and international audiences. In early 2020 she was one of two girls representing Uganda at the 6th African Regional Forum on Sustainable Development Goals hosted in Zimbabwe. She shared her experience and how she was given new hope; and what she is now doing to share the same hope with other children in her community. Even while out of school due to the Covid-19 closedown, she has amplified the discussions with fellow girls in her community on the negative impact of child trafficking and encourages them to continue embracing education to secure the future of the girl child.

“Child trafficking is a sad reality. I had an experience that I wouldn't love my fellow children to go through. I have known that education is a powerful tool for empowerment, that's why I can't leave school. It's my prayer that duty bearers take responsibility as we advocate and condemn child trafficking in my district and also in other parts of the world.”



THE JOINING FORCES ALLIANCE FOR CHILDREN

The Joining Forces coalition is a global alliance of six of the world's leading child rights organisations: ChildFund Alliance, Plan International, Save the Children International, SOS Children's Villages International, Terre des Hommes International Federation, and World Vision International.

Prioritising the rights and welfare of children during the Covid-19 pandemic

The Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR) and The Joining Forces Alliance for Children (JFA-Kenya) released a joint statement in June emphasising the need for specific child protection directives during the Covid-19 crisis in Kenya. The statement listed several concerns and recommendations. Among the pertinent issues raised included, the profound delay in enacting the 2019 Children Bill and the need for the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection to proactively advocate for child protection measures in the National and County Governments' Covid-19 decisions and directives.

In Uganda, the Joining Forces Coalition shared a briefing paper on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on children in the country. The paper acknowledged that although children may not be considered most at

risk of contracting Covid-19, they were among the most vulnerable to the 'secondary' social and economic impacts. The Joining Forces Coalition called upon the government, international donors and other key actors to make child protection a priority through:

- ensuring child protection and mental health activities are adequately funded and incorporated into all response plans, and acknowledging that these activities are essential and lifesaving;
- disseminating child-friendly information through creative materials;
- taking children's views and opinions into account;
- enforcing laws and making sure that all cases of violence against children and domestic violence are prosecuted;
- strengthening child protection structures and reporting systems, for example by investing in the national child helpline; and
- expanding social protection to make sure that vulnerable children have food and support.





ADDRESSING CHILD LABOUR IN MADAGASCAR

Madagascar is the third biggest exporter of mica worldwide, accounting for about seven percent of the global mica trade. The income potential of the sector, although low, attracts poor and vulnerable families with approximately 10,000 children working in mica mining. Child labour in mining is considered to be one of the Worst Forms of Child Labour (WFCL) by the International Labour Organization (ILO).

In 2019, NBC News highlighted the plight of children working in mica mining following a fact-finding mission carried out in conjunction with Terre des Hommes Netherlands. This led to the listing of mica mined in Madagascar as a good produced by child labour in the '2020 List of Goods Produced by Child or Forced Labor' report.



CHILD SAFEGUARDING

Terre des Hommes Netherlands strongly prioritises child safeguarding to ensure that no harm is done to any child by us and our partners' staff, volunteers or those associated with us such as consultants and journalists.

This year, the Terre des Hommes International Federation (TDHIF) obtained a Keeping Children Safe Level 1 recertification, three years after having obtained certification for the first time. This means that all safeguarding measures implemented by TDHIF and member organisations, such as Terre des Hommes Netherlands, effectively comply with international Child Safeguarding Standards.

“By working together to renew our Level 1 certification with Keeping Children Safe, we strengthened our collective capacity and expertise, and aligned existing practices. Keeping Children Safe’s recommendations will continue to guide us towards overcoming possible weaknesses in our safeguarding system.”

Delphine Moralis, Secretary General
Terre des Hommes International Federation



KEY HIGHLIGHTS

The youth-led advocacy campaign including the production and the launch of the movie Nambwa FM, under the GAA programme, provided media exposure to girls and young women's narratives; increased awareness of their vulnerability; stimulated and promoted public debate about existing gender norms; and promoted community action in support of their advocacy priorities and agendas.

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to remove structural barriers and ensure an enabling environment for the elimination of Gender Based Violence and economic exclusion of adolescent girls and young women in Kwale County.

Media coverage (highlights)

- In partnership with UNICEF, Terre des Hommes Netherlands has implemented a project focusing on empowering communities to prevent and respond to child exploitation as well as Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) against children in Letea and Songot wards, Turkana West sub-county, Kenya. The project was featured on Citizen TV (Kenya) with a specific focus on early or teenage pregnancies.
- Due to Covid-19, children's rights have been greatly compromised. In a publication in the Daily Monitor newspaper, Terre des Hommes Netherlands in Uganda focused on the effects that the Covid-19 pandemic has on children. Additionally, FGM and the safety of school children during school closures was featured in The Guardian (UK), Common Dreams (USA), The Business Daily (Kenya) and The Standard (Kenya) newspapers.
- Cases of child trafficking continued to rise despite Covid-19 restrictions as traffickers sought new ways to target victims, using online platforms, and new routes and methods to avoid law enforcers. The Daily Nation (Kenya), The People Daily (Kenya), Capital News (Kenya), New Vision (Uganda) and PML Daily (Uganda) aptly captured the situation on the ground and also featured Terre des Hommes Netherlands.
- The launch of the online safety manual in conjunction with the Ministry of Education received interest from the media with the Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC), The People Daily (Kenya) and The Star (Kenya) covering the event from different and interesting perspectives. Terre des Hommes was lauded for the timely release of the manual at a time when the country was experiencing increased use of digital devices in learning.
- During the World Day Against Child Labour, NBS prime time news reported on the increase of child labour in Uganda and the views of the government and other stakeholders, including Terre des Hommes Netherlands.

- As part of the World Children's Day commemoration in Kenya, Terre des Hommes Netherlands in Kenya participated in the expert panel discussing children's rights on the national news channel KTN News.

Ambassador Nelmo

Nelson Muniyiri better known as Nelmo Newsong is a recording and performing artist and social entrepreneur focused on changing the world through music and promoting creative work. Born and raised in the informal settlement of Mukuru in Nairobi, Kenya, Nelmo has built his music career by using music to advocate for social justice, child rights and human rights.

As a child rights activist, Nelmo Newsong played a role in the feature film Nambwa FM which came into being under the Girls Advocacy Alliance in Kenya. Nambwa FM features the story of girls and young women in Kwale County, based on real-life experiences, and was co-created with the girls and young women themselves. In addition to his acting role, Nelmo's music is part of the film's soundtrack, including his signature song Defend Them which is a plea for safeguarding child rights.



The outcome of journalist training & subsequent publication

The Eastern Africa Child Rights Network (EACRN) successfully trained journalists from Kenya, Uganda and Ethiopia as part of their partnership with Terre des Hommes Netherlands, focused on regional advocacy to increase awareness on child trafficking and unsafe migration.. Following the training, journalists were tasked with completing an assignment that highlighted children's cases and incorporated the child protection concepts learnt.

The team at New Vision Uganda highlighted a story of Karamoja girls being trafficked into Kenya under the title "*Trafficked Karimajong Girls end up with Al-Shabaab*". This led to renewed interest and action by the governments of Kenya and Uganda on the issue of Child Trafficking (CT)

and Sexual Exploitation of Children (SEC). As a result, the Ugandan and Kenyan governments carried out a successful rescue of 91 Karamojong girls who were kept in the Eastleigh area of Nairobi in January 2020. This collaboration of rescue is a first for the two governments and comes after a series of meetings and the deliberate efforts of EACRN to have the two governments join hands on regional trafficking cases.

Empowering courtrooms to handle child trafficking cases

In a dialogue with the judiciary and magistrates, Terre des Hommes Netherlands and partners have pleaded for better enforcement of the existing legal framework, to help prevent and prosecute child trafficking cases. Court processes should be child friendly to accommodate child trafficking survivors. The dialogue with the judiciary and magistrates took place at the Judicial Training Institute (JTI) in Kampala. Under the *Girls Advocacy Alliance* programme, it was initiated by our partners Rahab Uganda and Dwelling Places, who both focus on countering domestic child trafficking.

Rahab Uganda and Dwelling Places initiated a dialogue with the judiciary and magistrates to plead for better enforcement of the existing legal framework, to help prevent and prosecute child trafficking cases.

Recommendations made included child-friendly court processes to accommodate child trafficking survivors and more proactive judgements under the Prevention of Trafficking In Persons (PTIP) Act 2009 from the judiciary.

Development and review of the anti-trafficking draft manual

Also under the *Girls Advocacy Alliance* programme, Terre des Hommes Netherlands in partnership with Rahab Uganda engaged key leaders of the Uganda Police training School to explore the possibility of incorporating a module on anti-trafficking within their training curriculum. This was necessitated by gaps identified in the response structure with victims and perpetrators alike, such as pending cases and delays in prosecution. The module, which incorporates over 22 topics that cut across all training levels, will be incorporated into the national training curriculum of the Uganda Police Force.



NEW PARTNERSHIPS

GFEMS

Terre des Hommes Netherlands is collaborating with the Global Fund to End Modern Slavery to tackle child trafficking and child sexual exploitation in East Africa. This collaboration is part of the Global Fund's partnership with the U.S. Department of State's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons. The two projects are based in Kenya and Uganda with a focus on skills development and livelihoods for survivors and community-based prevention of child sexual exploitation (CSE), respectively.

USDOL

The United States Department of Labor (USDOL) entered into a multi-million cooperative agreement with the United Nations Development Programme in collaboration with UNICEF, Terre des Hommes and the Responsible Mica Initiative to end child labour practices in Madagascar's mica mining sector.

This joint project will target three mica producing communities in the southern Anosy region of the country: Ranopiso, Tranomaro and Ambatoabo. It will involve national and local authorities and communities throughout its 54-month implementation period.

Terre des Hommes Netherlands will lead actions to facilitate access to alternative livelihoods for vulnerable adults, improve the health and nutrition of children and vulnerable households and work to contribute to increasing access to early childhood education and education for older children. Civil society will be mobilised to advance children's rights and to monitor the mica supply chain. Terre des Hommes Netherlands will also map the current legal framework of mica production in Madagascar.

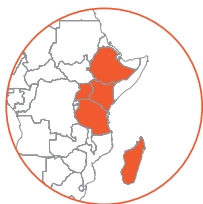
EU / DevCo

In the Dadaab refugee complex in Kenya at the border to Somalia, together with our sister organisation Terre des Hommes Foundation, we ensure that children at risk of abuse, neglect, violence and exploitation can access sustainable and good-quality child protection services. Our work to create a protective environment for children is funded by the European Union – Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid.

More than 200,000 people live in the Dadaab refugee complex that was created in 1991. In this protracted refugee situation, services are limited and children are exposed to violence, exploitation and abuse. Terre des Hommes provides access to the basic needs of refugee families and reinforces community-based structures to ensure that children's rights are guaranteed.

Through the project, Terre des Hommes Netherlands ensures that the most vulnerable children and their families have access to basic services. Through case management, we follow up with children at risk and refer them to health, legal, psychosocial and other protection services. At the same time, we reinforce community-based structures that ensure that children can enjoy their rights.

FINANCIAL REPORT - 2020

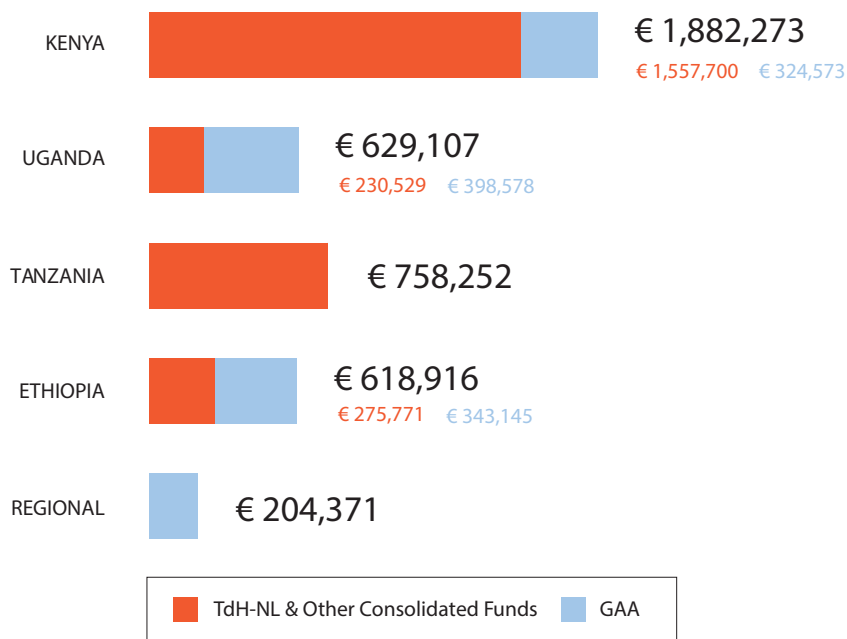


Regional Office

Operations/Administration Expenses

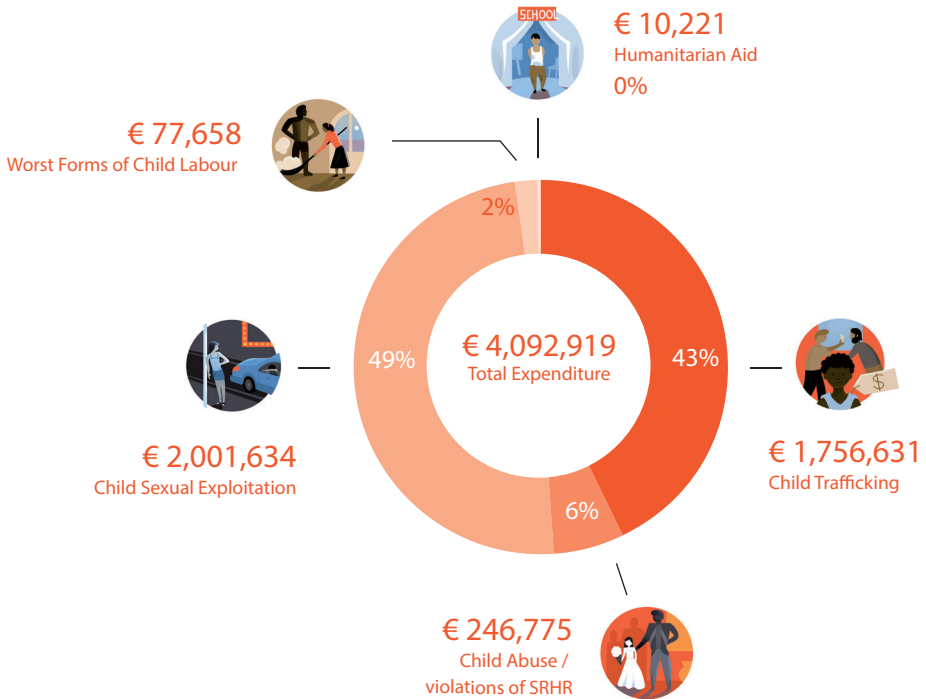
€ 451,050

Programme Expenses per Funding Stream



In 2020, Terre des Hommes Netherlands East Africa was able to fund its programmatic activities with support from the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, other individual donors and foundations and Terre des Hommes Netherlands' own funding.

Programmatic Themes



The focus of Terre des Hommes Netherlands' work in 2020 remained on our four programmatic themes of Child Trafficking and Unsafe Migration (CTM), Sexual Exploitation of Children (SEC), Worst Forms of Child Labour (CL) and Child Abuse (CA)/ Sexual Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR). In addition, we have provided Humanitarian Assistance to children and their families affected by emergencies within our geographical concentration areas.

DONORS

We are thankful to all our donors and development partners for the unwavering support we received in 2020.

- Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- European Commission Directorate
- General for International Cooperation and Development
- European Union, EUROPEAN CIVIL PROTECTION AND HUMANITARIAN AID OPERATIONS (ECHO)
- United States Department of Labor (USDOL)
- Global Fund to End Modern Slavery (GFEMS)
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- Volkswagen Employees' Foundation (through TdH Germany)
- Nationale Postcode Loterij (NPL)
- Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO)
- Porticus
- Stichting 10 september
- Stichting Steunfonds Basiszorg

BOARD MEMBERS


Terre des Hommes Netherlands is supported by a Board in Kenya. Our valued Board Members are:

- Mr. Carel Willem Jan Kok - Chairman
- Mr. Joshat Ngaira Musumba - Secretary
- Mr. Joseph Masika Mutunga - Treasurer
- Mr. Maarten Koopman - Board member
- Dr. Norah A. Obudho - Board member

"Thank you for your continued support!"



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