

Globalnews



stories and updates from Scripture Union around the world

Global News aims to keep you in touch with how our network of Scripture Union teams around the world is having an impact on young lives. We hope this monthly update will inspire you to partner with us.

Kenya's national director calls for end to silence on violence against children



National Director of **Scripture Union Kenya**, Nancy Kahuthia, has called for action to stop violence against children, which has seen an increase following the recent pandemic lockdowns.

Speaking on national television, Nancy headed up a discussion on how government and faith organisations could take steps to tackle the problem, with statistics showing that one in every two children in Kenya experience violence against them.

Talking on the programme Nancy said, "It's important that we have this conversation, because when we think about the numbers it's really very worrying... we are talking about 10 million kids who are violated. We have a problem on our hands and it is completely unacceptable. We need to bring these conversations to the fore because many people are not aware of these statistics."

Nancy said people were afraid to speak out, even when they knew a child was being harmed. She said, "In faith circles we talk about sins of commission and sins of omission and both are just as bad. Only two out of five who experienced sexual or physical violence told someone about it."

"This is part of what we need to deal with. There is secrecy around issues of abuse. Even when we talk about one out of two children experiencing violence, I think that is only what is reported. I believe the figures are a lot higher."

Nancy said statistics showed that, particularly during the Covid season, most of the perpetrators of violence were family members or people who were known to the person who was violated.

She said, "So we have this secrecy of silence, and it's no wonder the problem has escalated. This is what we need to tackle – we need to break the conspiracy of silence. The more we keep quiet the more cases will increase."

"What Covid has done is to accelerate an already existing problem. When parents and children are locked down in one place there is constrained movement, that is bound to bring a lot of idleness and a lot of mischief."

She said learning life skills about how to communicate with one another when under pressure was one of the ways to help and that faith based organisations have a key roll to play. She encouraged Kenyans to download the new National prevention and response plan against violence to children. Nancy said there were also examples of good stories, such as Scripture Union Kenya's programme on mental health and wellness.

"What we are saying is that we all need to be involved. This is a battle that we must win, we don't have an option about it. Violence begets violence, so what kind of future do we want for our children? We need to design strategies today that will give us the future that we want for our children – a safe future, a bright future, a hopeful future."

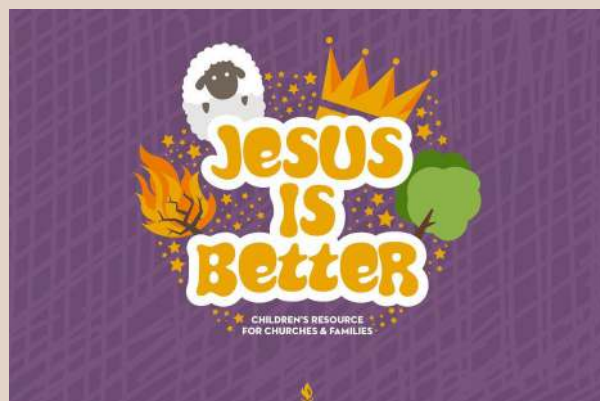
About Kenya



Kenya is located in East Africa and borders five countries including Tanzania, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Uganda and Somalia. The country lies on the equator and borders the Indian Ocean. It is the world's leading safari destination and boasts the second highest mountain in Africa. Its population is around 54 million and there are 68 different languages spoken in the country, although its two official languages are Kiswahili and English. Most of the population are Christians who make up about 83 per cent. More than 43 per cent of the population are aged between 4-14 years old and Scripture Union facilitates a range of programs for children and young people including camps, schools work, chaplaincy, resources and life skills programs.

New resource explains why 'Jesus is Better'

[Scripture Union Northern Ireland](#) are thankful for the technology, creativity and space to be able to film for their new children's resource for churches and families based on the theme 'Jesus Is Better'. They are praying that as it goes out to people, they will discover how to continue offering relevant and topical resources and that many children would see that Jesus is better.



Six Vacation camps in Nepal after long lockdown



You can help support more camps for children in Nepal and in other areas by making a donation [HERE](#)

Scripture Union Nepal was able to hold six Vacation Bible School camps after almost a year of lockdown in the country. The National Director, Dhruba Nepal said, "To organise and to take part in a camp was really a great relief. It made the children and the teachers mentally and physically fresh. Sitting together and engaging in the word of God was a great opportunity for both the children and the teachers. Many of the children were first-timers in Christian activities and they had the chance to hear the gospel."

The camps gave the children an opportunity to commit their life to Jesus."

Learning from **the greatest trainer of all**



REGISTER NOW

RIDE LIKE A GIRL CAMP

22-25 APRIL
GIRLS YEARS 7-12
MULLALEY, NEAR GUNNEDAH

A brand new camp for girls called 'Ride Like A Girl Camp' run by [Scripture Union in New South Wales](#) has been receiving great publicity in local newspapers. The camp, designed for girls who love horse riding and want to improve their relationship with horses, includes three days of riding activities to help them broaden their horse handling and riding skills, and to strengthen their training relationship with their horses. Organisers say, "The camp's beautiful surrounding also help the girls spend time together in nature, considering their relationship with the greatest trainer of all: the God of the Bible."

You can partner with us

If you would like to know more about how to partner with us or find out about Scripture Union in a particular country or area, you can discover more [HERE](#):



Help us share
hope with more
children and
young people

Scripture Union: God's Big Story Transforming Young Lives
scriptureunion.global