



## Wezesha Project



*The Wezesha Project supports outreach activities that foster emotional support for children. Here, a group of orphans and vulnerable children from Matongo Village in Marani, Nyanza County, play and make new friends.*

### U.S. Presidential Initiative:

- Global Health Initiative
- President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief

**Funding Level:**  
\$2.6 Million

**Duration:**  
June 2013 – June 2018



### Activity Goals:

- Coordinate sustainable, local support systems for orphans and vulnerable children
- Support 5,000 households to provide care for orphans and vulnerable children
- Support 20,000 orphans and vulnerable children

### Activity Accomplishments:

- Trained 1042 peer educators on life skills
- Trained 1261 on savings, loaning, and small business management
- Identified 3,988 orphans and vulnerable children homes
- Held nine stakeholder forums to promote and coordinate care of orphans and vulnerable children

### Implementing Partner:

Lifeskills Promoters

### Key Partners:

Government of Kenya Ministries, including the Ministry of Labor and Social Services, Health, Education, Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries.

NGOs including, St Johns’ Community Center, and

### ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

Wezesha mobilizes and expands community-based responses to meet the needs of orphans and vulnerable children. The activity works with local implementing partners, including non-governmental, faith- and community-based organizations and relevant Government of Kenya Ministries, including the Ministries of Labor, Social Security and Services, Health, Education, Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries.

The project cultivates local responses to the growing number of orphans and vulnerable children in Migori, Kisii and Homa Bay Counties. It complements the work of county and national government, public institutions, and other civil society organizations. Wezesha fosters sustainable systems that help local communities ensure that orphans and vulnerable children can lead productive lives instead of being a burden on their communities.

### ACTIVITY AREAS

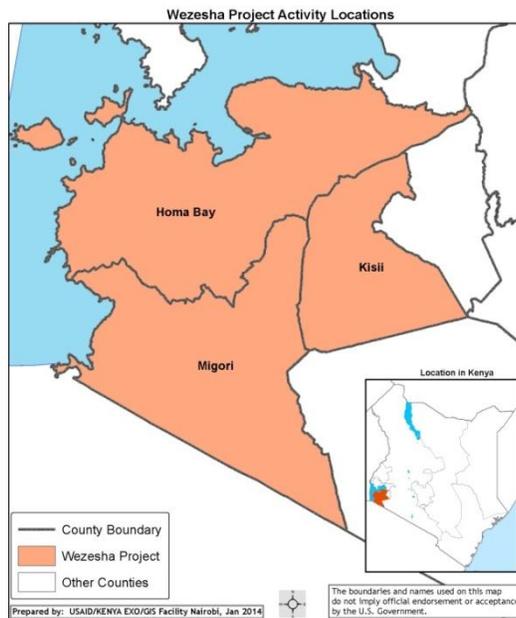
The Wezesha Project uses a sustainable and family-centered approach to meet the basic needs of orphans and vulnerable children, regardless of faith. The activity supports community workers to conduct local needs assessments and develop realistic plans for improving household incomes of families that serve as primary caregivers to orphans and vulnerable children. Community volunteers provide counseling, health information, referrals and resources to orphaned and vulnerable children and their caregivers to address the children’s health needs.

The activity also strengthens child protection structures to improve the well-being of children and increases market-driven vocational skills for older orphans and vulnerable children. The project strengthens 20 community organizations to respond to orphan and vulnerable children needs effectively.

Christian Partnership on AIDS in Kenya

**Activity Locations:**

Southern Nyanza in Migori, Kisii and Homa Bay Counties



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**ACTIVITY IMPACT**



*Wezesha Project community volunteers discuss plans for outreach to orphans and vulnerable children. Community volunteers provide a local, sustainable approach to identifying children's needs and connecting those children with resources to meet those needs.*