



**Testimony of
Jesse Eaves
Child Protection Policy Advisor
World Vision USA**

**House Committee on Foreign Affairs
Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Human Rights
On
International Child Abduction
May 24, 2011**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for holding this hearing and for inviting me here today. My name is Jesse Eaves and I am the Child Protection Policy Advisor for World Vision U.S. World Vision is a Christian relief, development, and advocacy organization serving millions of children and families in nearly 100 countries. Our 40,000 employees are dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities to tackle the root causes of poverty and injustice. This work includes emergency relief after natural disasters; long-term economic development projects; programs that work to prevent and respond to abuse, neglect, exploitation, and violence against children; and advocating for effective systems and laws that can provide a safety net for vulnerable populations. World Vision U.S. has over 1 million private donors in every state and congressional district and partners with over 6,000 churches in the United States. We are part of the global federation of World Vision International, which last year contributed more than \$2.6 billion to helping children through international development assistance.

Based on that description of our work, I have been asked to bring a global perspective on child protection, especially as it relates to preventing and responding to any illegal movement of children.

I want to thank you again Mr. Chairman for your leadership in working to protect children not only here in the U.S. but around the world. You have been behind some of the most important pieces of child-focused legislation in our nation's history and the child protection systems within our country are stronger for it. As this hearing has shown, we still have more to do and that is also sadly the case for the vast majority of countries around the world. Of particular note are those countries in a post-conflict or post-emergency context where children are often found in their most vulnerable state and where the informal and formal systems that should protect them have either failed or never existed to begin with. This hearing allows the opportunity to address not only how the United States can deal with issues like international child abduction but also opens the door to put systems in place that can prevent and respond to all cases of abuse, neglect, exploitation, abduction, and violence against children.

Systems of child protection are an inter-linking web that forms a safety net of prevention and response for children. An effective system includes formal mechanisms such as laws and regulations; services and service delivery mechanisms; and the human and financial capacity to see those laws implemented and services effectively delivered. Combined with informal mechanisms such as community training and awareness, child protection systems are the first and last line of defense in providing a safe environment where children can flourish.

Governments in fragile contexts are often unwilling or unable to perform the services required of them to protect their most vulnerable populations. That's why it's

incumbent upon organizations like World Vision and donor governments like the U.S. to partner with governments to fill in the gaps until the country can do it on their own.

The issue of identification documents is of extreme importance. In fact, something as simple as birth registration can determine whether children remain in the care of those that love them or slip through the cracks, never to be seen again. The birth registration rate in Sudan is around 33%. In South Sudan, nearly 300,000 people have returned to take part in the creation of a new country that already has a low capacity to handle such an influx. However, with an estimated 60% of returnees being under the age of 18, a lack of birth registration and identification documents means that unaccompanied and separated children are less likely to find a caring home and are extremely vulnerable to abuse. We now see homeless child populations increasing in urban centers, particularly in the southern capital of Juba. With no identification and no way to find their families, these children are extremely vulnerable to abuses that include abduction, recruitment into armed militias, and sexual or labor exploitation.

Having proper documentation and officials trained in how to identify suspicious behavior is crucial to protecting vulnerable children, especially in fragile states. Since the January 2010 earthquake in Haiti, many organizations including World Vision and our partner Heartland Alliance have worked to train border guards on preventing illegal movement of children. There have been several documented cases where trained and alert Haitian officials were able to stop children from being taken across the border. In one case a thirteen year-old girl was found in the cab of a cargo truck with a man who could provide no proof of relation. The girl was placed in the family tracing system and her mother was able to come and provide proof that she was indeed related to the girl and had not intended for her to be taken anywhere, let alone out of the country. In this and so

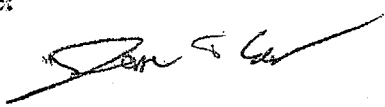
many other cases, the importance of documentation and officials implementing protection policies have meant the difference between a happy reunification and a life cut tragically short.

The U.S. can play a central role in encouraging countries as they work to protect their most precious resources: their children. Mr. Chairman, last year you introduced a bill that is a prime example of how the U.S. can take a systems strengthening approach in its engagement with other nations. The Child Protection Compact Act was originally designed to create a partnership between the U.S. and countries trying specifically to combat child slavery. Though the bill uses a human trafficking lens, it has profound implications that can help combat not only child trafficking, but virtually all forms of abuse, exploitation, and violence against children. The bill aims to strengthen the very institutions that are crucial to the protection of not just the most vulnerable children but all children. 127 of your colleagues cosponsored the legislation with you, showing the political will to keep the U.S. as a global leader in preventing and responding to vulnerability. Legislation like the CPCA can play a crucial role in providing a safer world for children and we look forward to seeing similar legislation in the future. We also look forward to working with you to ensure that every child can experience life in all its fullness. Thank you again for your leadership Mr. Chairman and I'll be happy to address any questions.

United States House of Representatives
Committee on Foreign Affairs

"TRUTH IN TESTIMONY" DISCLOSURE FORM

Clause 2(g) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives and the Rules of the Committee require the disclosure of the following information. A copy of this form should be attached to your written testimony and will be made publicly available in electronic format, per House Rules.

1. Name:	2. Organization or organizations you are representing:
Jesse Eaves	World Vision US
3. Date of Committee hearing:	
May 24, 2011	
4. Have you received any Federal grants or contracts (including any subgrants and subcontracts) since October 1, 2008 related to the subject on which you have been invited to testify?	5. Have any of the organizations you are representing received any Federal grants or contracts (including any subgrants and subcontracts) since October 1, 2008 related to the subject on which you have been invited to testify?
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
6. If you answered yes to either item 4 or 5, please list the source and amount of each grant or contract, and indicate whether the recipient of such grant was you or the organization(s) you are representing. You may list additional grants or contracts on additional sheets.	
See attached financial disclosure sheets	
7. Signature:	
	

Please attach a copy of this form to your written testimony.

World Vision International and World Vision, Inc. (USA)

Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards

For the Year Ended September 30, 2009

Federal Grantor/Pass Through Grantor/Program Title	CFDA Number	Grant Number	Program Office	Federal Expenditures
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR (DOL) - Cash Grants:				
Colombia Education to Combat Child Labor	17.000	E-9-K-4-0059	DOL	\$ 227,912
Ethiopia KURET HIV/AIDS	17.000	E-9-K-4-0057	DOL	(171)
Kenya KURET HIV/AIDS	17.000	E-9-K-4-0057	DOL	140,149
Philippines TEACH Now!	17.000	IL-16570-07-75-K	DOL	1,189,371
Rwanda KURET HIV/AIDS	17.000	E-9-K-4-0057	DOL	232,791
Uganda KURET HIV/AIDS	17.000	E-9-K-4-0057	DOL	1,035,614
TOTAL AWARDS - DOL				\$ 2,825,666 (2)
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE (DOS) - Cash Grants:				
Armenia 2008 International Program Combat Trafficking	19.000	S-SGTIP-09-GR-0079	DOS/G-TIP	\$ 23,267
Azerbaijan CAPE	19.000	SPRM CO 09 CA 111	DOS/BPRM	33,185
Bosnia-Herzegovina Support Roma Minority	19.000	S-LMAQM-07-GR-141	DOS/DRL	165,702
Laos Voices of Victims	19.000	S-GTIP-07-GR-019	DOS/INL	117,777
Mauritania Brakna Wilaya Return (BraWRRA)	19.000	SPRM CO 08 CA 078	DOS/BPRM	434,099
Russia IHEP	19.000	SPRM CO 08 CA 122	DOS/BPRM	477,740
Sudan Southern Jonglei Refugee JoRRA Phase II	19.000	SPRM CO08 CA 070	DOS/BPRM	932,023
Sudan S WERPAP	19.000	SPRM CO09 CA 073	DOS/BPRM	56,845
Sudan S Fangak FRAP	19.000	SPRM CO09 CA 124	DOS/BPRM	31,227
TOTAL AWARDS - DOS				\$ 2,271,865 (2)
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (DHHS) - Cash Grants:				
US Compassion Capital Fund CEY Program	93.009	90EJ0061/01	DHHS	\$ 272,772
Subtotal DHHS Cash Grants				\$ 272,772
Cash Subgrants:				
Medical Institute FY09-FY10	93.000	5 U58 DP-000409-04	DHHS/CDC	\$ 974
Subtotal DHHS Cash Subgrants				\$ 974
TOTAL AWARDS - DHHS				\$ 273,746 (2)
OTHER FEDERAL AWARDS - Cash Grants:				
Appalachia-21st Century Learning	84.287	C277215	W.Virginia DOE	\$ 18,836
Appalachia TEAM Initiative	16.000	2008-JL-FX-0035	DOJ/OJJDP	91,768
TOTAL AWARDS - OTHER				\$ 110,604 (2)
TOTAL FEDERAL AWARDS				\$ 294,566,538

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this schedule.

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For the Year Ended September 30, 2010

Federal Grantor/Pass Through Grantor/Program Title	CFDA Number	Grant Number	Program Office	Federal Expenditures
U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, continued				
Cash Grants, continued:				
Pakistan Buner Quick Impact/Early Recovery	98.001	DFD-G-00-09-00327	DCHA/OFDA	\$ 1,889,320
Philippines Typhoon Ketsana	98.001	DFD-G-00-10-00009	DCHA/OFDA	72,158
Polio Eradication Initiative	98.001	HRN-A-00-98-00053	PHN/HN	24,525
Russian Channeling Hope HIV/AIDS Prevention	98.001	118-A-00-06-00059	USAID/Russia	8,001
Russian Federation Poverty Reduction Program	98.001	118-A-00-06-00046	USAID/Russia	164,425
Russian Federation Healthy Mothers for Health Children	98.001	118-A-00-10-00054	USAID/Russia	21,634
Rwanda DAP ITSH	98.001	FFP-A-00-04-00084	DCHA/FFP	398,903
Somalia Northwest Water and Sanitation	98.001	AID-OFDA-G-10-00036	DCHA/OFDA	209,533
Sri Lanka Child Protection	98.001	DFD-G-00-07-00020	DCHA/OFDA	5,105
Sri Lanka Early Recovery Asst for IDPs	98.001	AID-OFDA-G-10-00128	DCHA/OFDA	152,229
Sudan-North Darfur Emergency Assistance	98.001	DFD-G-00-06-00128	DCHA/OFDA	176,928
Sudan-North Darfur SSD-ICAP	98.001	AID-OFDA-G-10-00024	DCHA/OFDA	492,517
Sudan-North Blue Nile WATSAN	98.001	DFD-G-00-07-00024	DCHA/OFDA	4,966
Sudan-North Blue Nile WASH Recovery	98.001	DFD-G-00-08-00253	DCHA/OFDA	105,923
Sudan-North Kassala and Blue Nile States Integrated	98.001	DFD-G-00-09-00282	DCHA/OFDA	997,231
Sudan-South Emergency Recovery Assistance	98.001	DFD-G-00-08-00134	DCHA/OFDA	474,064
Sudan-South ERRAP III	98.001	AID-OFDA-G-10-00018	DCHA/OFDA	109,003
Sudan-South Western Equatoria	98.001	DFD-G-00-09-00242	DCHA/OFDA	849,268
Tanzania Malaria Control	98.001	DFD-G-00-08-00009	USAID/Tanzania	(916)
Uganda SPEAR	98.001	617-A-00-08-00015	USAID/Uganda	1,480,354
Zambia STEPS OVC	98.001	611-A-00-10-00001	OAA/USAID/Zambia	879,330
Zambia OVC RAPIDS	98.001	690-A-00-04-00251	USAID/Zambia	2,813,468
Zimbabwe SYAP 202(e)	98.001	FFP-A-00-07-00028	DCHA/FFP	5,889,915
Zimbabwe SYAP ITSH	98.001	FFP-A-00-07-00028	DCHA/FFP	10,753,483
Zimbabwe SYAP MAP	98.001	FFP-A-00-07-00028	DCHA/FFP	544,126
Zimbabwe OFDA	98.001	DFD-G-00-07-00154	DCHA/OFDA	1,773,536
Total USAID Cash Grants				\$ 85,771,835
Cash Subgrants:				
ACDI/VOCA				
Sierra Leone Transforming PAGE	98.001	337-WVI-01	ACDI/VOCA	\$ 1,734,220
Subtotal ACDI/VOCA Cash Subgrant				\$ 1,734,220
Academy for Educational Development (AED):				
Dominican Republic El Seybo	98.001	3760-01-WVES	AED	\$ 24,271
Dominican Republic Restauracion	98.001	3760-01-WVR	AED	8,978
Dominican Republic Haiti Earthquake	98.001	3760-01-WV-01	AED	229,176
Kenya Bunyala Tesco BCC Malaria	98.001	3879-WV-01	AED	83,992
Subtotal AED Cash Subgrant				\$ 346,417

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For the Year Ended September 30, 2010

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE - Cash Grants, continued:				
Other Department of State Cash Grants:				
Albania Combat Human Trafficking	19.000	S-GTIP-10-GR-0028	DOS/G-TIP	\$ 12,126
Armenia 2008 International Program Combat Trafficking	19.000	S-SGTIP-09-GR-0079	DOS/G-TIP	178,251
Azerbaijan CAPE	19.000	SPRM CO 09 CA 111	DOS/BPRM	566,815
Azerbaijan Gateway	19.000	SPRMC004CA097	DOS/BPRM	756
Bosnia-Herzegovina Support Roma Minority	19.000	S-LMAQM-07-GR-141	DOS/BPRM	287
Laos to Support Flood Relief/Recovery	19.000	S-LA900-10-GR-002	DOS/Embassy	50,000
Laos Voices of Victims	19.000	S-GTIP-07-GR-019	DOS/INL	123,739
Romania Flood Relief and Mitigation in Botosani	19.000	S-RO100-10-GR-040	DOS/Embassy	50,000
Russia Chechnya IV	19.000	SPRM CO 04 CA 028	DOS/BPRM	18,660
Russia Chechnya Emergency	19.000	SPRM CO 05 CA 006	DOS/BPRM	26,820
Russia Federation Chechnya	19.000	SPRM CO 07 CA 071	DOS/BPRM	3
Russia IHEP	19.000	SPRM CO 08 CA 122	DOS/BPRM	23,040
Sudan-South Jonglei Refugee JoRRA Phase II	19.000	SPRM CO 08 CA 070	DOS/BPRM	10,689
Subtotal Other Department of State Cash Grants				\$ 1,061,186
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE (DOS) 19.520 - Cash Grants:				
Overseas Refugee Assistance Programs for Europe:				
Russia IHEP II	19.520	SPRM CO 09 CA 135	DOS/BPRM	\$ 599,999
Russia Serving the Displaced in Ingushetia	19.520	SPRM CO 10 CA 194	DOS/BPRM	14,020
Subtotal Overseas Refugee Assistance Programs for Europe				\$ 614,019
TOTAL AWARDS - DOS				\$ 3,129,802
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (DHHS) - Cash Grants:				
US Compassion Capital Fund CEY Program	93.009	901CO126-003	DHHS	\$ 230,349
Subtotal DHHS Cash Grants				\$ 230,349
Catholic Medical Mission Board (CMMB)				
Sudan-South ANISA	93.067	IU2GPS0016	CCM/DHHS	\$ 203,096
Subtotal CMMB Cash Subgrant				\$ 203,096
Columbia University				
Swaziland Lubombo Region	93.000	IU2GPS002005-01	CU/CDC/DHHS	\$ 354,704
Subtotal Columbia University Cash Subgrant				\$ 354,704
Medical Institute for Sexual Health				
United States Domestic Contract - Medical Institute 09/10	93.938	5 U58 DP-000409-04	Medical Institute/CDC/DHHS	\$ 30,315
United States Domestic Contract - Medical Institute 10/11	93.938	5 U58 DP-000409-04	Medical Institute/CDC/DHHS	1,486
Subtotal Medical Institute Cash Subgrant				\$ 31,801
TOTAL AWARDS - DHHS				\$ 819,950

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The accompanying notes are an integral part of this schedule.